



**A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.**

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**THREE ITEMS.**

**Extending.** THE PROPRIETORS OF **THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST** have opened a branch office in New York at the Postal Telegraph Buildings, 253 Broadway. It is in charge of the resident representative, Mr. John E. Glass.

**Diary.** THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1901 has been sent by post to all colonial and foreign subscribers. The copies for home subscribers will be ready at the end of next week. Would those whose subscriptions expire with this issue please renew at once? If they do so, we shall reserve copies of the DIARY for them. This is a particularly busy time in our subscription-department, and consideration of this fact on the part of our subscribers is much appreciated in our office, prompt renewals especially so.

**Price-lists.** The beginning of a new century is an absolutely new sensation to everybody in business. How can it be signalled? There is no one who can tell from experience. But we can give good advice to business-men. Show fresh enterprise and renewed energy. You are in the drug-trade or one of its allied branches? Then make **THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST** your touchstone. In circulation, influence, and results it is admittedly premier. The Winter Issue will be published on January 26, 1901. For it we can take circulars, insets, &c., to be stitched in with our own pages. A good inset would be just the thing in which to express fresh enterprise and renewed energy, and if any business house would like to know how it is done and what it costs they should write to the Publisher of the *C. & D.*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

**Summary.**

REFORMS in Hungarian and Italian pharmacy are explained on p. 837.

TWO SCOTCH CONVICTIONS under the Pharmacy Act are reported on p. 854.

MR. E. M. HOLMES, as *Larus Pharmaceuticus*, is placed in the Aviary this week (p. 846).

MESSRS. MICHAEL BEETHAM AND J. H. CHANCE are names in our obituary column (p. 837).

A "CANCER-CURE," submitted to Mr. A. H. Allen for analysis, turns out to be poor stuff (p. 833).

SOME interesting chemical observations on oils of neroli and petitgrain are summarised on p. 853.

THE FORMATION OF "SOAP CLUBS" is an undesired form of cutting which the P.A.T.A. condemns (p. 852).

MR. A. H. ALLEN makes an eloquent reply to Professor Attfield in regard to the Pharmacopœia as a standard (p. 859).

QUININE-WINE and other pharmacopœial wines are the subject of letters by Mr. T. Maben and Dr. McWalter (p. 861).

PROFESSOR KOCH'S VIEWS ON MALARIA, and those of a homœopathic physician of Liverpool, are given in a note on p. 851.

PARISIAN PHARMACISTS are indignant about a suggestion that the accuracy of their compounding should be tested (p. 835).

UGANDA ALOES is the subject of a practical note by Mr. J. H. Evans, communicated to the Liverpool Chemists' Association (p. 841).

CHEAP PATENTS frequently originate in some such way as noted in the theft case reported on p. 833, and the comment upon it (p. 851).

DEWSBURY CHEMISTS have approved generally Mr. Broadhead's Bill (p. 842). The President of the Newcastle Association has also outlined the Bill (p. 839).

THE STUDENTS' CORNER is a record this week, 124 samples having been distributed. Applications for the next should be sent in at once. The report is on p. 830.

MR. JAMES REID deprecates any attempt to deal in the Pharmacy Bill with anything less than the company question, and Mr. Lord Gifford has a tilt at Mr. Wootton (p. 861\*).

MINIMUM SALARIES of 40*l.* indoors and 100*l.* outdoors for unqualified assistants, and 80*l.* indoors and 156*l.* outdoors for qualified, are to be considered by the C.A.U. (p. 844).

BOOTS' CASH CHEMISTS (EASTERN) (LIMITED) has paid 12 per cent. on ordinary shares; Lewis & Burrows (Limited) 6 per cent., and Magors (Limited) reports a decrease in losses (p. 858).

THE SACCHARIN LITIGATION has reached the Court of Appeal, the Anglo-Continental Chemical Company and another having appealed against decisions of the Lower Courts (p. 855).

PICRIC ACID is a ticklish thing for chemists to handle from the legal point of view. We have obtained from the Home Office some authoritative information upon the subject (p. 850).

THE WESTERN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION held a successful dinner on Wednesday evening, at which the Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society deprecated overloading the Pharmacy Bill (p. 857).

GOOD DISPENSING NOTES, and notes on formaldehyde solution for preserving botanical specimens, and on chemists and the war were communicated to the Chemists' Assistants' Association last week (p. 838).

PROFESSOR ATTFIELD'S B.P. REPORT was commented upon by Mr. A. C. Abraham, at Liverpool, in a practical manner, several good hints being given. Mr. Abraham especially objected to the disse of saffron and the extended use of paraffin for ointments (p. 840).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND failed to get an unqualified assistant convicted at Tullamore for selling poison, because the first summons charged him with keeping open shop. It has, however, succeeded in getting four fines imposed upon a firm of chemists and druggists who compounded prescriptions (p. 854).

SEVERAL important changes have occurred in the markets this week. Santonin is 2*s.* 5*d.* per lb. dearer. German camphor, opium are also higher, and saffron, menthol are firmer. Cod-liver oil is lower, and quinine is again a dead letter, so far as the speculative market is concerned. Shellac was dearer in auction (p. 863).



## Students' Corner.

CONDUCTED BY RICHARD J. MOSS, F.I.C., F.C.S.

### QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a *stamped and addressed envelope*, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Wednesday, November 28, and the samples will be posted on November 29.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, December 8. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

### REPORTS.

The powder sent to students on November 1 contained 4 parts of calcium oxalate, 1 of copper oxychloride, and 1 of strontium nitrate.

The calculated composition of the powder was:—

Cu	...	...	...	...	9.49
Sr	...	...	...	...	6.90
Ca	...	...	...	...	16.26
Cl	...	...	...	...	2.67
NO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	...	9.76
C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	...	35.78
O	...	...	...	...	1.80
H <sub>2</sub> O	...	...	...	...	17.34
					100.00

The only impurities present in notable quantity were iron and the carbonic radicle.

There were 124 packets of the powder sent to correspondents, and 71 reports of analysis were received in reply.

The failures in the detection of the several constituents of the powder were as follows:—Copper, 1; strontium, 42; calcium, 26; chlorine, 15; nitric acid, 35; oxalic acid, 20.

It is evident that the detection of strontium was the principal difficulty presented by the analysis. The first indication of the presence of this metal was obtained when the powder, moistened with hydrochloric acid, was introduced on a platinum wire into the Bunsen flame. With the aid of a spectroscope the lines characteristic of strontium could be at once recognised. The cheapest form of pocket-spectroscope suffices for such a purpose, but unfortunately such instruments are not yet in common use. Many of our correspondents concluded that the red flame-coloration was due to calcium alone. If they had taken the trouble to compare the colour with that produced by a known calcium salt, the difference could not have failed to strike them. A great deal depended upon the opinion formed from the flame-coloration, because it is difficult to separate strontium from the other alkali earth-metals, and it is a great matter to be forewarned as to the necessity for special precautions. Methods for the detection of strontium by precipitation as sulphate, employing a reagent containing too little of the sulphuric radicle to precipitate calcium, are unsatisfactory, because the quantity of precipitate must always be small in comparison with the volume of liquid, and the solubility of calcium phosphate, which is rather high, may be further increased by the presence of certain salts and acids. If this method is employed, the best reagent to use is ammonium sulphate, because, instead of being a precipitant for calcium,

it acts as a solvent for calcium sulphate. The worst reagent to use is dilute sulphuric acid, because it may liberate an equivalent of hydrochloric or nitric acid, both of which greatly increase the solubility of strontium sulphate. The method of separating strontium from calcium, depending upon the solubility of calcium nitrate in alcohol, was employed by several of our more successful correspondents; it is one of the best that can be adopted. The mixed carbonates, precipitated in the usual course, are easily converted into nitrates by dissolving them in dilute nitric acid, and evaporating the solution.

The failures in the detection of calcium arose in almost every case from the presence of the metal in the form of oxalate. On adding ammonia in excess to an acid solution of the powder, the oxalate was precipitated. It ought to have been recognised as something totally unlike the hydroxides which may make their appearance at this stage, but the peculiarity of the precipitate passed unnoticed in many cases. It is to prevent the possibility of an organic salt being precipitated, when the solution is rendered alkaline, that the student is directed to evaporate the filtrate from sulphuretted hydrogen to dryness, and ignite the residue. The results of this exercise show that the precaution is a wise one to take.

We are surprised that the presence of a nitrate was not more frequently detected in the preliminary examination. Perhaps the heating of the powder in a bulb-tube was tried in bad light, so that the red fumes were not noticed, but then their very characteristic odour should not have escaped detection. Unfortunately, however, the sense of smell is sadly neglected; scarcely any trouble is taken to cultivate it. To the pharmacist and chemist the sense of smell has the same kind of importance as normal colour-perception has to the railway official.

### PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to

WILLIAM W. HOLE, 6 Redcot Street, Kennington, S.E.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

W. B. PERRY, 128 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

### MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

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W. B. Perry	97	Piper Long...	...	...	59
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Pharmacy	63	T. W.	...	...	35
Loughlorne	63	B. M. E.	...	...	30
Three Spires	62	E. Kemp	...	...	20
Pepo...	61	Chimico	...	...	20
X. Y. Z. (S.)	60	W. M. A.	...	...	10
Phenol	60	Ferrum	...	...	5
Brucine	60				



## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**Prizes.**—The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher, naming the book they select, and stating how they wish it forwarded.

Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half a guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

**Note.**—All communications should include the names and addresses of the writers.

**FLOS.**—Ammonium carbonate should have given a precipitate in the filtrate from group 3. In the presence of much ammonium chloride and nitrate, strontium carbonate is not precipitated unless a great excess of ammonium carbonate is used.

**LESTER.**—The precipitate you obtained with ammonium carbonate must have contained calcium in the form of oxalate, as you had failed to precipitate that salt by the addition of ammonia, and you had done nothing that would decompose the oxalate. The presence of calcium in the form of oxalate would, of course, account for the acetic-acid solution of the ammonium-carbonate precipitate.

**KARLACHAN.**—You cannot have boiled long enough with sodium carbonate to decompose the insoluble oxalate. Ten minutes' boiling effected sufficient decomposition to admit of the detection of the oxalic radicle in the filtrate.

**W. MAXWELL.**—The carbonic radicle was an impurity in the copper salt, which we found contained 0.83 per cent. of carbon dioxide, corresponding to 0.14 per cent. in the powder. The carbon dioxide evolved when the powder was heated with sulphuric acid, was a product of the decomposition of the oxalate.

**SPOROPHORE.**—The flame-coloration was at times too crimson for calcium. You probably did not allow sufficient time for the precipitation of the strontium as sulphate.

**WELBECK.**—You should send both *nom de plume* and real name and address with every communication. You may write on both sides of the paper, as your MS. does not go to the printer.

**BORON.**—You did not attach enough importance to the flame-coloration.

**CLUMBER.**—See remarks to "Sporophore."

**S. V. R.**—See remarks to "Sporophore."

**EXCELSIOR.**—Your suspicion that the flame-coloration was too red for calcium was well founded, and should have suggested the necessity for special care in the search for strontium by the wet method.

**J. F. WARD.**—The ferrous-sulphate test for nitric acid should never be omitted unless there is conclusive evidence of the absence of a nitrate.

**RANDOM.**—When some of the powder was heated in a bulb-tube a brownish gas was given off with the peculiar odour of the products of a reduced nitrate.

**R. R. B.**—You should not have omitted the ferrous-sulphate test for nitric acid.

**J. R. STOTT.**—Your preliminary work was very good, but you do not seem to have given the same care to the analysis in the wet way. Possibly the residue from the evaporation of the sulphuretted-hydrogen filtrate was not heated strongly enough to decompose the oxalate.

**SCIENCE.**—The method you describe, carefully carried out, detected strontium by precipitation as sulphate.

**PHOSPHATIS.**—You seem to have assumed that the solution you describe as the filtrate from the first ammonia precipitate could contain no alkali earth-metal but magnesium; it should have contained strontium.

**ZINGIBER.**—There was much more chlorine present than you supposed; the quantity given above is the result of an analysis of the copper salt; even a tenth of it would be a large trace.

**ANILIN.**—When you used ammonium hydroxide as a group-reagent it is evident you did not add enough, because the subsequent addition of the sulphide produced a white precipitate which no doubt contained calcium oxalate, a salt which the previous reagent in excess would have removed from solution.

**AMAR.**—See remarks to J. F. Ward.

**R. E. JACKSON.**—It makes very little difference what form is adopted in writing out a report, provided it is an honest account of the work done, and the results obtained. The clearest way of reporting the analysis in the wet way is by ruling off a vertical column to each precipitate and filtrate in the manner you will find described in any good text-book of analysis.

**PHARMACY.**—It would seem that you did not add enough ammonia to the acid solution from which strontium had been removed. Of course, the presence of a free mineral acid would interfere with the precipitation of calcium as oxalate.

**LOUGHLOONE.**—You and "Pharmacy" have a singular habit of making the same mistakes. Could you not work quite independently?

**THREE SPIRES.**—You do not say how you applied the ferrous-sulphate test for nitric acid to the original powder. The aqueous extract gave an abundant precipitate of strontium sulphate, with an excess of ferrous sulphate. On filtering and adding strong sulphuric acid, in the usual way, there was a dark-brown ring at the junction of the liquids.

**PHENOL.**—The flame-coloration you attributed to lithium was due to strontium. It took some time to precipitate the strontium in the form of sulphate.

**BRUCINE.**—If you had tried the flame-coloration of the ammonium-carbonate precipitate you would have found the red colour stronger than with the original powder. This could not have been the case if the colour had been due to lithium.

**PIPER LONG.**—Strontium was readily detected in the aqueous extract of the powder, but free sulphuric acid should not be used as a precipitant, because it liberates an equivalent of the acid with which the strontium is combined, and most free acids greatly increase the solubility of strontium sulphate.

**NIL DESPERANDUM.**—You should test your sodium carbonate for sulphate: it would appear from your results that it must be impure.

**NITRIC OXIDE.**—The ammonia precipitate you mistook for a tin-compound was simply calcium oxalate.

**MITOSIS.**—The reddish fumes of nitrogen oxides evolved when the powder was heated were more easily detected than the carbonic oxide; it was only necessary to look lengthways into the tube, and also to notice the peculiar smell.

**H. G. MASON.**—No odour at all resembling sulphur dioxide was evolved when the powder was warmed with sulphuric acid. You might readily have ascertained whether the gas evolved was sulphur dioxide, by trying if it decolorised dilute potassium-permanganate solution.

**RALPH PICKUP.**—The calcium oxalate in the powder was precipitated unchanged when you neutralised the acid-solution by adding ammonia. It was the calcium in this precipitate that you mistook for cerium.

**HYDROXYL.**—Copper sulphide is appreciably soluble in ammonium sulphide, though not in sodium sulphide, therefore the latter should be used when copper is indicated.

**SPHINX.**—The complete absence of a burnt-sugar odour when the powder was heated showed that no appreciable quantity of a citrate could be present.

**R. D. D.**—The acid radicles required closer attention; you should have prepared a solution for this part of the work by boiling the powder with sodium carbonate. A solution of the powder in dilute hydrochloric acid did not give a precipitate with barium chloride.

**AURUM.**—See remarks to W. Maxwell.

**ALOES.**—You dissolved some of the powder in dilute hydrochloric acid, boiled this solution with sodium carbonate, filtered, and powdered to test the filtrate for chlorine by adding silver nitrate. Fortunately for your reputation you discovered it was present.

**S. A. M.**—You do not say how you applied the molybdic test for phosphoric acid. You should use a nitric-acid solution of ammonium molybdate; if you add the ammonium salt alone to an acid solution, you may get a precipitate of molybdic anhydride which may mislead you.

**X. Y. Z.**—We tried the two tests by which you satisfied yourself that chlorine was absent. Warmed with manganese dioxide and sulphuric acid there was no mistaking the evolution of chlorine, while there was an equally positive production of chlorochromic anhydride when the powder was warmed with sulphuric acid and potassium bichromate. With a mixture of salts, containing perhaps only a small quantity of a certain salt, you must not expect such well-marked results as would be obtained if you operated upon the pure salt alone.

**ALDEHYDE.**—More thorough work is necessary. You describe in two words the results of heating the powder in a tube; in some of the best reports this one experiment occupies nearly as much space as you devote to the entire wet analysis.

**A. S. REID.**—See remarks to W. Marshall and "S. A. M." In describing your tests for acids you refer repeatedly to an original solution, but what this solution was is not stated.

**T. O. D.**—Your report is merely a list of results; it is not an account of work done.



**EPHC.**—According to your report the solution in which you detected acetic acid by the ferric-chloride test was a sodium-carbonate solution of the powder, neutralised with acetic acid. The addition of the acid to the solution might almost be taken as evidence of its presence in that solution.

**PEPO.**—You should give a fuller account of your work. Negative results should not be omitted, because you have to prove the absence of a large number of substances as well as the presence of a few. You make no mention of a preliminary examination in the dry way, a most important part of the work.

**T. E. W.**—When you suspect a gas evolved to be sulphur dioxide it would be well to compare the smell with that of the gas obtained from a sulphite, and to try its bleaching or reducing properties with suitable reagents.

**BIG TICH.**—See remarks to "Sphinx."

**B. M. E.**—In the case you mention alcohol is used because lead sulphate is much less soluble in it than in water. A trace of lead might escape detection if the alcohol were not used. <sup>W</sup>W

**E. KEMP.**—If you had used enough sulphuretted hydrogen in precipitating the copper, and if the solution had contained a sufficiency of water, the precipitate would have been quite black.

**CHEMICO.**—You want practice with mixtures of known composition, and especially with mixtures containing relatively small quantities of some constituents.

**FERRUM.**—Thirty-five students failed to detect nitric acid, and you were not one of them, so we award you five points; but cadmium, manganese, sodium, and iodine, the other constituents you detected, were very wide of the mark.

#### PROGRESS OF THE TOURNAMENT.

The report given above is the second of the series of six which form the Winter Tournament; as matters now stand the following ten competitors are the best:—

Cwm (194), Intigar (183), W. B. Perry (182), Omega (179), Karlachan (177), W. Maxwell (175), Wena (173), and Excelsior, Hygeia, and S. V. R. all with 170 marks.

For the encouragement of those students whose names are not mentioned here, we may state that there is plenty of opportunity for fresh names to be placed in the top ten before the end of the competition. Those students who have not given their names as well as pseudonyms on their reports will please do so in future, as the work of keeping the record is hindered by their not doing so.

### English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Royal College of Surgeons.

The annual meeting of the College was held on November 15. The annual report referred to the dispute with the General Medical Council as to the recognition of scientific institutions in which medical students commence their studies. The income of the College was returned at 25,211<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, and the expenditure 23,555<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. Dr. Herbert Snow proposed that steps be taken to confer representation on the members, who at present have no voice in the College affairs. The motion was carried. Mr. George Brown followed with a motion (which was afterwards carried) that steps be taken to obtain a Parliamentary inquiry into the working of the Medical Acts with a view to amending them. He thought the College should be able to give medical titles to its diplomates, alleging that hundreds of young men were kept away because membership gave them no right to prefix the title "Dr." Sir Wm. MacCormac (the President) reminded Mr. Brown that in 1888 the two Colleges were unsuccessful in getting the Secretary of State to allow members to call themselves "Dr." Another motion that the interests of the profession would be furthered if the College agreed to the recommendations of the General Medical Council as to combination with the Apothecaries' Society, and on the question of the commencement of scientific studies, was also carried.

#### Brevities.

The penny postage is to be extended to the Orange River Colony on December 1.

Messrs. Anderson & Virgo, chemists, are to do the dispensing at Worcester General Infirmary for the next year giving twelve hours a week for 50<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per annum.

On November 17 the body of Edward Williams (32), said to have formerly been a chemist in Warrington, was found in the Manchester Ship Canal, near Stockton Heath.

Mr. Otto Lahr, a partner in the firm of Lahr, Fleischer & Co., chemical-merchants, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was found dead in the Northumberland Baths on November 9 with his throat cut.

At Gloucester on November 17, Samuel Wyatt, chemist and druggist, found guilty of feloniously shooting his father, was certified insane and ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure.

At the Battle Petty Sessions on Tuesday James Henry Pound, grocer, of Whallington, was fined 22s., including costs, for selling camphorated oil deficient in camphor. It contained 17 per cent.

Two labourers, named McCarthy and Long, have been committed for trial at the sessions on a charge of being concerned in stealing five cases of indiarubber, valued at 72<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>., from sheds in the Royal Albert Docks.

Trooper Brunt, son of Mr. Francis Brunt, chemist and druggist, Coalville, who has been serving in South Africa with the Derbyshire contingent of the Imperial Yeomanry, has returned on sick leave, having sustained an injury to his leg.

Early on the morning of November 17 the side window of the shop of Messrs. Horne & Thornthwaite, ophthalmic opticians, 416 Strand, W.C., was smashed, and gold spectacles, eye-glasses, and silver spectacle-cases to the value of 120<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> were stolen.

Mr. M. A. Adams, analyst to the Kent County Council, reports that during the past quarter he has analysed forty-three samples of drugs, of which only three were adulterated—viz., one each of cream of tartar, spirit of nitrous ether, and quinine-wine.

At a meeting of the London County Council on November 20 the following contracts were accepted for 1901:—Chemicals—Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. Chemical apparatus—Messrs. Townson & Mercer. Oilmen's sundries and disinfectants—Messrs. Middleton Brothers, Messrs. Glover & Co., and Messrs. Bell & Co.

At an inquest held at Buxton on November 15 on the body of a boy who died from injuries received through the explosion of an oil-lamp, evidence was given by Mr. Thomas Wardle, chemist, Ashbourne, who stated under what conditions paraffin was sold. The jury recommended that the flash-point should be raised again to 100°.

At Stratford, on November 16, Frederick Thomas, chemist's assistant, was fined 5s. and 9s. costs, for assaulting Maria Moss, a general servant in the employ of Mr. James Patterson, chemist, Ilford. The prosecutrix went to the branch shop where Thomas was, to collect dusters. Defendant objected to her taking the dusters, tried to put her out, and struck her on the back.

Professor Wyndham R. Dunstan, Director of the Scientific Department, Imperial Institute, presided on Monday evening, November 19, at a lecture given in the Institute by Mr. James Stirling, Mining Representative of Victoria, Australia, on "The Coal-resources of Victoria." The Australian colonies have large areas of coal-bearing territory, and up to the present have produced a million tons of coal, the largest output having been from New South Wales.

At Market Harborough Petty Sessions on Tuesday, Mr. Alonzo J. Freeland, chemist and druggist, Kibworth, Beauchamp, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per cent. under the minimum standard. Mr. Biggs, who represented Mr. Freeland, said in view of the exceedingly high standing of his client in Kibworth, and the exceedingly technical nature of the offence, he asked that the case should be dismissed on payment of costs; and the Bench decided not to convict, on payment of 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> ls. costs.



## British Pharmaceutical Conference.

A meeting of the London Executive Committee was held at 17 Bloomsbury Square, on Monday, November 5. Present, Messrs. W. Martindale (in the chair), Carteighe, Cracknell, Bowen, Bremridge, Hills, Mathews, Umney, and Warren. The Treasurer presented a balance-sheet, showing that the expenditure had been met by the sums received, leaving no balance on either side of the account. The Committee ordered that the accounts should be audited and signed by the Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. F. Harrington. The Committee passed cordial votes of thanks to the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. J. H. Mathews), for the courteous and thoroughly efficient manner in which he performed the duties of his office; to Mr. J. C. Umney, for his invaluable services in arranging for the concert and dance in the Whitehall Rooms, and for his unremitting exertions at all the social functions of the Conference; and to the Hon. Secretaries, Mr. W. Warren and Mr. H. Cracknell, for the zealous manner in which they performed the duties of their office.

## Birmingham Notes.

Typhoid is alarmingly on the increase in the city, and the authorities have decided to adopt the Widal test, to be carried out by Professor Leith at the College, also to encourage the injection of the enteric antitoxin as a prophylactic.

"A young man (gentlemanly), age 19, wants a situation in a chemist's shop. Address —." A pharmacist replied and interviewed the advertiser, and found his qualifications were as follows:—Had been in a factor's office, was the son of a grocer, had not passed any examination, and had no experience of pharmacy. He simply wanted to better himself. The interview was brief.

In his quarterly report Dr. Hill, Medical Officer of Health for the city, states that five of twelve samples of baking-powder taken for analysis contained alum. The necessity of the inclusion of baking-powder under "food" is, said Dr. Hill, clearly shown by the large proportion of the samples containing the very objectionable ingredient alum. One sample, which contained 13 per cent. of alum, was marked "Prize-medal Baking-powder," and another actually claimed to make bread more digestible, in spite of the presence of 25 per cent. of alum.

## "Cheap Patents."

At the Guildhall on November 20, Albert Charles Wright (26), packer, in the service of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., wholesale druggists, Coleman Street, E.C., was brought up, on remand, charged with stealing a quantity of patent medicines, and Charles Sydney Skelton (31), in the service of Messrs. Jones, Stewart & Co., of Fell Street, was charged with receiving the same, well knowing them to have been stolen. There was a similar case in which Skelton was charged with robbing his employers, and Wright with receiving the stolen goods. Mr. Musket, prosecuting on behalf of the Wholesale Drug-trade Protection Society, said that a large quantity of goods, including bottles of perfume, bottles of peppermint, Scott's emulsion, pills, soaps, &c., were found at Wright's home, and were identified by his employers as their property. A quantity of hosiery was also found, which Messrs. Jones, Stewart & Co. identified, and Wright was therefore charged with feloniously receiving the goods. Skelton admitted the theft of this, and also said he had received patent medicines from Wright. Detective-inspector Ottoway had charge of the case. Mr. William Charles Harriss, warehouse manager to Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., said Wright had been in their service as packer in the export-department for a little over five years. The witness identified the tubes of chloride of gold, cases of cocaine, and surgeon's pocket-cases found at Wright's place as the property of the firm. Wright would have ready access to the bottles of Scott's emulsion, which were stacked in the packing-room. The accused pleaded guilty, and the prosecutors recommended the prisoners to mercy. Alderman Smallman, in passing sentence, observed that he would give due weight to the recommendation made, but he could not but remember that this robbery was not an isolated one—it was indeed a series. Under all the circumstances, the justice of the case, he thought, would be

met by a term of two months' imprisonment for each of the accused, with hard labour.

## Goods without Invoice.

An important point for traders doing business with Guardians was raised at the last meeting of the Wicklowood Board in Norfolk. A letter was read from a Norwich firm complaining that the Master had declined to receive goods sent to the workhouse with a delivery-note, but without an invoice, which was forwarded by the next post. It was admitted that, technically, the Master's attitude was correct, but the firm asked the Guardians to pay 10s., the cost of the back cartage. The Master informed the Board that tradesmen so constantly neglected to send an invoice with their goods that he was bound to take that step to protect himself from errors in his own accounts. The Board decided to refuse to pay the claim for carriage of the returned goods.

## Look out! for Daisy.

A woman named Daisy Stanley Elizabeth Isaac was charged at Willenhall on November 17 with fraud. Mr. W. Thomas, chemist and druggist, 41 Market Place, Willenhall, stated that accused came to his shop and purchased a seidlitz-powder. In payment she tendered half-a-crown, and was given a florin and 4½d. in copper as change. She then said that she had been given 2s. short in her change, but after pretending to pick up the florin from the shop-floor she departed. The police stated that the accused had attempted similar extortions at other shops, in one case demanding half-a-sovereign as shortage in change. She was remanded pending inquiries.

## Would be More Careful.

The Lewisham Board of Guardians on November 12 received from the Coroner a communication respecting a recent case of suicide by poisoning in the workhouse, calling attention to the danger of poisons being left within reach of patients. The medical superintendent (Dr. Toogood) said the bottle from which the suicide drank contained solution of perchloride of mercury, 1 in 100, coloured blue. The rules provided that all poisons and lotions were to be kept in the locked cupboards and cabinets provided for that purpose. The Infirmary Committee had taken steps to have the rules more rigidly enforced in future, and a small cupboard with lock and key, had been fitted up in each ward for antiseptics and disinfectants.

## Cancer-treatment.

An inquest was held on November 19 on the body of Mrs. Annie Taylor, aged 27, wife of a Mirfield publican, who died from cancer. Benjamin Balme, a medical-herbalist, stated that Mrs. Taylor consulted him and his wife once a week. They did not examine her, but Mrs. Balme was hypnotised, and during her hypnotic trances diagnosed and wrote out prescriptions. They gave deceased medicine and an ointment. Witness had recommended her to get further advice as it was a very bad case. Dr. Milne was of opinion that if the woman had been surgically treated in the earlier stages she would have had a good chance of a perfect cure. The treatment she had undergone was simply a negative one. The Coroner suggested that if the death of the woman was accelerated by the treatment it amounted to manslaughter, but the jury found that no blame attached to anyone.

The adjourned inquest into the death of Ellen Dransfield, who died, it was alleged, as the result of treatment for cancer at the hands of an unqualified practitioner named Rawlings (*C. & D.*, page 757), was held at Stockport on November 12. According to the analysis of Mr. A. H. Allen, of Sheffield, the ointment was useless for any curative purpose, being free from any active medicament. The bottle labelled "Cancer and fungus lotion" consisted largely of water. A considerable quantity of wood-tar was also present, together with starchy and other vegetable matter not identified, but it was free from alkaloids and other active ingredients. Two other bottles, bearing the labels "Cancer and tumour lotion," were practically identical, except that one smelt more strongly of cloves than the other. Both samples consisted of a dark aqueous liquid, containing a deposit of highly-burnt bread-crumbs. The odour of the liquid was due to the presence of the oils of cloves and



eucalyptus, but these ingredients were not present to the extent of more than 2 or 3 per cent. The remainder of the liquid was water. Neither contained any trace of arsenic, mercury, or other poisonous metal, nor was any vegetable alkaloid or any other ingredient of an active nature detected. It was conceivable, he said, that these concoctions, especially that containing the wood-tar, might cause considerable irritation if used habitually. Dr. E. W. Blackburn said the use of the wood-tar lotion would act as an irritant and set up inflammation and consequent exhaustion, thereby accelerating death. Taking the history of the case, he declared that if the deceased had submitted to operation, or been let alone, she would have been alive now. Rawlings, giving evidence, stated that he treated cancer, tumours, and fungi in human beings and horses. He agreed with the analyses, but denied the existence of bread-crumbs. In reply to the Coroner, he declined to state the contents of the ointments or lotions. The jury found that the deceased's death was accelerated by the treatment of an unqualified practitioner, and the Coroner committed Rawlings for trial.

#### Service Compounders.

Compounder J. R. Cowburn, lately returned from Lady-smith, returned for duty to South Africa on November 20.

The following compounders, returned from South Africa, are at Aldershot:—Messrs. Cummings, Young, Hales, Flitcroft, and Whiteside.

#### Masonic.

At a meeting of the "Arthur John Brogden" Lodge, 1715, held at Grange-over Sands, on November 9, Bro. G. W. Kendall, chemist, was elected Tyler. Bro. Kendall was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in the same Lodge on June 8, 1900.

#### Unmerited Trust

On November 12 a man named Gray visited the shop of Mr. Robert Samuel Farrer, chemist and druggist, High Street, Stroud, and purchased some oil of lavender and essence of musk, value 2s. 1d. He promised to pay half an hour later, but on returning he induced Mr. Farrer to give him further credit for  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of cloves and some burnt sugar, value 4d. After his second departure a tablet of soap, a pot of pomade, and a bottle of glycerin and cucumber, value 1s. 9d., were missed from the counter. Gray, on being arrested, confessed to stealing these articles, and at the police court on November 16 he was sentenced to seven days' hard labour. Mr. Farrer declined to proceed against the man for obtaining goods by false pretences.

#### First-aid Treatment.

An inquiry was held at Clayton-le-Moors on November 14 into the circumstances of the death of a collier, 17 years old, who died from the effects of injuries received whilst playing with a miniature cannon. The lad, it appeared, had been treated by Mark Whittaker, a drug and patent-medicine dealer, but who, as the Coroner (Mr. H. J. Robinson) pointed out, "was neither a chemist nor a druggist." The medical witnesses attributed death to blood-poisoning, caused by the inflammation and septic condition set up by the presence of a stone found in a wound in the lower part of the abdomen. Whittaker, to whom the deceased was first taken, deposed to examining the wound and putting a stitch in to stop the bleeding. He saw the father the following day, and told him he ought to see someone about the lad. The latter replied that the lad was doing well, and no doctor was called in for a few days afterwards. He only did his duty in rendering first aid in checking the bleeding with the intention that the parents should see someone else afterwards. In summing up, the Coroner said rendering first aid would have been merely putting a pad on and sending the lad off to the nearest doctor, but Whittaker went further and examined the wound and put a stitch in, which was very much like treating the wound. If that treatment had resulted in the death of the boy, it was the jury's duty to send Whittaker for manslaughter. The jury, after deliberation, did not consider that Mark Whittaker did anything more than would have been done by any other ambulance-man, and returned a verdict of accidental death.

#### Poisonings of the Week.

Not a single fatal poisoning-case is reported from an unscheduled poison since our last issue. Fourteen fatal cases have occurred, and nine suicides have been attempted. The fatalities include five as the result of taking carbolic acid. One of these was at Liverpool, and the Coroner (Mr. Sampson) said it was the first case which had come under his notice since the poison was scheduled. He hoped it would not be the forerunner of such cases, which used to be so frequent. One good feature of the present law, he said, was when a person asked for carbolic acid the chemist would refuse to serve it if the individual did not appear in a rational frame of mind. Chloroform-poisoning was the cause of death in three cases and laudanum in four. The others were—one from an overdose of chloral, and another from belladonna-liniment and opium-pills, a peculiar combination which was resorted to by a workhouse inmate at Lynn. A dose of creosote caused the death of a Liverpool dock-labourer. The would-be suicides preferred rat-poison in the majority of cases; oxalic acid, laudanum, and paregoric were tried by others without effect; and a girl at Leatherhead took such a large dose of white precipitate that she was violently sick immediately after and recovered. One man at Bridgwater tried iodoform, but did not take enough to kill.

### Irish News.

#### Disinfecting Drovers.

The disinfection of drovers, which has taken place for the last few months, has been discontinued pursuant to instructions from the veterinary branch of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland.

#### The Limerick Dispenser.

The Local Government Board, as a result of the recent inquiry, recommend the abolition of the position of apothecary to the Limerick Union Hospitals, and that the work of compounding medicines be done by a doctor.

#### Other Makers' Bottles.

At Belfast on Tuesday, J. J. McDonnell, James Jenkins, and Robert Dunwoody were charged under the Merchandise Marks Act with putting up aerated waters in other makers' bottles. The case was adjourned for a fortnight. A similar charge against Robert Kidd (Provincial Mineral-water Company) failed entirely.

#### The Analyst's Limit.

Mr. D. J. O'Mahony, analyst to the Macroom Guardians, points out to the Board that the fee of 10s. per annum which he charges only covers the analysis of drugs and medicines under Article 26 of the Dispensary Regulations of the L.G.B. Mr. O'Mahony offers to forego his charge for analysing samples of milks and whisky, but not that for butters and waters.

#### Whisky-making.

A German chemist some time ago offered the Irish Distillery Company a secret process for economically manufacturing whisky, which was tried and found wanting. Herr Busch, the chemist, claims 334s. for wrongful dismissal, but the Distillery Company obtained, on November 15, in the Queen's Bench, Dublin, an order that Busch should give security for his costs, proceedings to be stayed in the meantime.

### Scotch News.

#### Personal.

Mr. William Lyle, chemist and druggist, has been elected to Rothesay Town Council by a substantial majority. Mr. Lyle is a Liberal in politics and an enthusiastic Volunteer, being a member of the shooting-club connected with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.



## The 23rd.

The Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association started their 23rd session last week under favourable circumstances with the address printed in the last issue of the *C. & D.* Messrs. Boa, Henry, Lunan, Macpherson, and Hill were amongst the old boys present. No Scotch meeting is complete just now without reference to the shilling-fee case, and the Vice-President (Mr. Lennox) did the needful on this occasion. He said Scotchmen had no cause to be ashamed of the share they had taken in the progress of pharmacy. They might be poor, and they were not ashamed of that. But they had great educational facilities, and had shown their capacity to stand in the front rank as practical pharmacists. He deprecated strongly the intention to shut the door against men to whom the payment of an extra 20s. was a material consideration.

## Death of a Scotch Traveller in New York.

The death of Mr. William Dawson, chemist and druggist, in New York was reported in the *C. & D.* a few weeks ago. It now appears that the first notification of the death was obtained by the editor of a Bradford newspaper, who received a letter from a postmaster in the State of New York about it. The letter asked that inquiries for relatives should be made, and said that the body could be forwarded to England for interment if so desired. Mr. Dawson had of recent years resided in Bradford, but for a long time had been with Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Edinburgh.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE ELECTION is announced of Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker as a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences. He is described as the "celebrated English botanist and Director of Kew Gardens." They have overlooked Sir W. Thistleton-Dyer.

LIGHT FROM BACTERIA.—R. Dubois communicated to the Paris Academy of Science recently a treatise on lighting by means of cold physiological light, called living light. It is already known that a large number of micro-organisms give off light; for example, those which cause the phosphorescence of the sea. From time to time glowworms have been used for producing a delicate light effect, but light-giving bacteria have certainly not hitherto been grown expressly for the purpose of lighting large rooms. Dubois informed the Academy that it is possible by growing certain photo-bacteria in broth to get a light similar to that of a beautiful clear full moon.

DOCTORS AND PHARMACISTS.—One of the Paris daily newspapers published the following letter a week ago, said to be from a hospital-physician:—

SIR,—As you always take an interest in hygiene and public health, will you allow me to point out an excessively interesting work for you? One of the troubles of therapeutics in the present day is the way pharmacy is practised. Will you make the following experiment? Have prepared as far as possible by a little-known doctor fifty identical prescriptions. Send them by a man not over-well dressed to fifty pharmacies, taken at hazard, for the medicine to be made up, and then submit the result to an analytical chemist. The result would be astonishing and frighten you. Publish the result, and announce that you are continuing your inquiry. You will have rendered an immense service to the population of Paris.

MM. G. de Mazières and Henri Martin replied to the attack, as president and secretary respectively of the "Chambre Syndicale et Société de Prévoyance des Pharmaciens de Paris et du Département de la Seine." The Council of the Chamber, they said, was roused by the attack against Paris pharmacists and made an energetic protest against it. The experiment of the fifty prescriptions, though an insult to pharmacists, was not to be feared, as it could only turn to the confusion of the calumniator. As a matter of fact, one must not forget that a Disciplinary Committee has now been at work in Paris for a number of years past. It is composed of twelve pharmacists, duly elected, and presided over by M. de Mazières as President of the Syndical Chamber. The committee hears all complaints relative to the preparation of medicine, and takes the necessary steps

for controlling pharmacists who are thought to be back-sliding, adopting the initiative of prosecution when necessary. But, as may be supposed, the number of cases of real fraud that can be traced are few, though accusations are never wanting.

PROGRESS IN PHARMACY.—During the past two years two changes of some importance have been made in French pharmacy. One is the abolition of the diploma of the "second-class" pharmacists, which prevented the holder from going into business in any other district but that in the jurisdiction of the school or faculty that issued the diploma. The other is the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy, an honorary title. Both of these seemed improvements and quite satisfactory, the abolition of the diploma of "second-class" pharmacists especially, for though it may have been excellent legislation when railway-travelling and cheap postage were unknown, it became an anomaly in the present generation. It had something of the appearance of ear-marking the pharmacists who held it, giving a "we-have-to-keep-our-eye-on-you" impression. But pharmacy, like everything else, cannot stand beating time. There is always someone in the van of progress, and the latest suggestion is that as a means of raising the status of pharmacists here, the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy should be required from everyone desiring to exercise their profession in Paris and the other leading towns of France. The suggestion is not without interest, but somehow the time does not appear ripe for it. We have not become quite used to the new appellation, and most people still consider it as a prerogative of the medical profession. I remember once sitting at dinner next to a Doctor of Law, and when someone addressed him as "Doctor" across the table, the lawyer turned to me and gravely said: "Does he expect me to ask him to put his tongue out? because I sha'n't." It may be added that an argument in favour of the proposed change is that by requiring the higher degree for larger cities cutting would receive a severe check, on the supposition that cutters are not usually men of high scientific attainments. One must also bear in mind in this connection that France is essentially a "one man, one pharmacy" country, but then it would mean reversion to the old order of two diplomas, from which we are only just emancipated. While speaking of these efforts for progress, mention may be made of a proposal receiving a good deal of support here, the object of which is to get the Paris School of Pharmacy made a faculty, and as such formally incorporated with the University of Paris, of which it already forms part to all intent and purposes.

INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY.—M. Ch. Lauth, who succeeded the late M. Schützenberger as Director of the City of Paris School of Physics and Industrial Chemistry, has published an interesting report on the working of this establishment. He refers to the classes for chemistry, general physics, and mathematics, and, in expressing himself regarding certain changes made by him in the technological classes, says that in an industrial school of that class it is necessary, in addition to the elementary classes, to teach the students the applications of science. This is a difficult task, and requires special qualities. The important thing is to give the students precise ideas of the actual state of various industries. They should be interested in pending questions. What is not less important is to develop these questions in an attractive manner in order that the students may not only learn to know, but also take an interest in, matters relating to industry. A professor of chemistry, M. Lauth adds, is not in a position to give such instruction, for which it is necessary to have passed some time in a workshop, or at least to have closely followed industrial questions. To fill this gap a group of specialists have been secured as professors, who possess not only practical experience but also scientific training. Amongst the lectures given last year the following subjects were included: Industrial economy and general technology, bookkeeping, industrial law, professional hygiene, applied mechanics, chemistry, metallurgy, bleaching, dyeing, artificial colouring matters, sugar, starch, paper, petroleum oil, soap, stearine, alkaloids, perfumes, pottery and glassware, mineralogy, and electro-chemistry. On account of the great development during recent years of the last subject (electro-chemistry), this is being made a speciality of the School, and a laboratory has been organised under the direction of Professor Combes.



## South African News.

(From our Cape Town Correspondent.)

**THE PARTNERSHIP** hitherto existing between Frederick Henry Carman and Francis Lever Workman (Carman & Workman), chemists, Woodstock and Salt River, has been dissolved. The business will in future be conducted by Mr. Carman on his own account.

**WAITING.**—Our Cape correspondent learns that a large quantity of medicines, surgical appliances, &c., intended for the use of the Boer forces, is lying at Lourenço Marques. The British being in possession of the railroad, the Boers could not get anyone through to look after these supplies. Meanwhile Consul Potts has stored the consignment.

**CARBONATED GREGORY.**—On October 25, John Frank Lonsdale, manager of Lennon (Limited), Overbeek Square, Cape Town, was charged, under Section 7 of the Adulteration Act, 1890, before Mr. G. Blackstone Williams, A.R.M., with having sold, on September 7, Gregory's powder not of the nature and substance demanded. Defendant pleaded not guilty. A similar charge was brought against Baltazar Desvages, chemist and druggist, Loop Street, Cape Town, who also pleaded not guilty. The circumstances in connection with the purchase were identical in both cases. A representative of Messrs. Van Zyl & Buissinne attended in the interests of the two defendants. Police-constable Gunn proved the purchases.

The Government analyst's certificates which were put in, read as follows:—

	No. 367 [Lonsdale's]	No. 365 [Desvages']
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Moisture ... ..	4.95	4.02
Non-volatile matter ...	32.00	31.40
Basic magnesia carbonate ...	68.00	67.00
Rhubarb and ginger ...	27.05	28.98

The analyst added:—

I am of the opinion that the above sample(s) contained 68 per cent. (and 67 per cent.) of foreign ingredients—namely, basic-magnesia carbonate, and is not of the substance nor quality of the article known by the name of Gregory's powder, as prescribed in the edition of the B.P. in Act No. 7 of 1890.

For the defence, Robert McDonald stated that he was a chemist and druggist in the employ of Lennon (Limited), and he sold the Gregory's powder on behalf of the company on September 7 last. Mr. Lonsdale then proved that he sold the powder in the same state as he received it from the company's headquarters. Mr. Arthur James Rivett, manager of Lennon (Limited), Cape Town, testified to supplying both defendants with the Gregory's powder in question. It was not according to the B.P. Until the proceedings were instituted he had no idea that his company had any drugs that were not prepared according to that work. He concurred with the certificate of the Government analyst. He had all the stuff sold called in. Before the 1898 edition of the B.P. was proclaimed, it was usual to employ the carbonate of magnesia because it acts quicker than the oxide, and gives a powder more pleasant to take. It would not be to the prejudice of the patient, for many doctors recommend the carbonate, and the therapeutic effect is practically the same. After an unimportant cross-examination the Magistrate fined each defendant 20s.

## East Indian News.

(From a Bombay Correspondent.)

**ANOTHER PILL ORDER.**—Following the order secured by Messrs. Treacher, which we recorded last mail, Messrs. Kemp are now supplying a large native State with 2,000r. worth of pills.

**A LADY LECTURER.**—Miss M. de Kantzow, representing Neave's Food, the Sanitary Wood-wool Company, and B. Kühn, arrived here this week from Colombo. She intends to lecture upon Neave's food in the Presidency centres.

**THE BOMBAY POST-OFFICE** having been declared as within a plague-infected area, a recent Government postal regula-

tion requires that all parcels sent out shall bear labels stating "This parcel does not contain any soiled linen, rags, or waste paper."

**SMUGGLING GANJA.**—Hassain Hussain, a Mahomedan, tried to take some kerosene-tins, which he represented to contain ghee, on board a vessel bound from Calcutta to Rangoon. His statement being doubted, the tins were opened, and found to contain ganja worth about 250r. He will be prosecuted.

**TRADE MATTERS.**—Of the larger movements of stock for the week (ending October 27) I have to record renewed activity in disinfectants, in one quarter over a ton of perchloride of mercury changing hands. Chloride of lime is also very much in demand, with no holders. There have been inquiries this week for "Johannis water" for H.E. the Viceroy, on his impending visit to Cutch.

**TRADE-MARK CASES.**—At the Madras Court on October 29, Mr. W. H. Haller, medical practitioner and aerated-water manufacturer, carrying on business in Popham's Broadway, brought an action against C. Manikavelu Mudali and C. Loganathan Mudali, aerated-water manufacturers in Mint Street, for infringement of the complainant's trade-mark. The accused offered an apology in open court and the payment of the complainant's costs. They were, however, convicted on their own admission, and sentenced to pay a fine of 25r. each.—At the Bombay Police-court on October 26, decision was given in the case in which Mr. W. Menke, the representative in India of the Actien-Gesellschaft für Anilin-Fabrikation, of Berlin, charged Tribhovan Dayabhai, under Section 486 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 7 of the Merchandise-marks Act, with having sold or exposed for sale tins of aniline dye bearing labels closely resembling those used by the complainant's firm. The facts of the case have already been published in the *C. & D.* The defence was that the complainant's brand was known in the market as *hathi chapp* (the elephant brand), while that of the accused was known as the two *hathi chapp*. The Magistrate held, on evidence, that there were no grounds for framing a charge against the accused. Though the evidence might be useful in moving a Civil Court for an injunction to restrain the sale of the accused's goods, it was not sufficient to warrant a conviction in a criminal court.

## Colonial and Foreign News.

**FIRE.**—On the island of Governador, Brazil, two warehouses, with their contents, belonging to Gonçalves Pereira & Co.'s bisulphide-of-carbon factory, were destroyed by fire recently. The loss is estimated at \$40,000.

**LABELS IN PORTUGUESE.**—The enforcement of that much-postponed regulation in regard to the use of Portuguese labels on imports into Brazil (except from Portugal) is now marked for the end of November, says the *Rio News*.

**GERMAN PHARMACISTS** are complaining of a dearth of assistants; many, even elderly gentlemen, have to work unaided. Young assistants especially are not to be had. Swiss pharmacists are also grumbling, and urge that women assistants should be more encouraged.

**METRIC SYSTEM IN RUSSIA.**—The Russian Minister of Finance has decided to introduce the metric system on January 14 next in St. Petersburg, Moscow, and six other large cities. The rest of the country will gradually be brought to use the metric system during the course of the next five years.

**NEW ZEALAND IN TWENTY-SEVEN DAYS.**—Mails from Auckland, N.Z., will shortly be delivered in London in twenty-seven days, and from Sydney, N.S.W., in thirty to thirty-one days, a reduction upon the present timing of five days. This result is made possible by the enterprise of the Oceanic Steamship Company.

**TARIFF-CHANGES IN VICTORIA.**—The following is a list of some decisions issued by the Victorian Department of Trade:—

Amylic alcohol, free; eau de quinine tonique, "Ed. Pineau," 17.6 over proof, 12s. per proof gal.; filter-pulp, free; medicinal preparations containing alcohol—*Spiritus ætheris comp.*, 12 over



proof, 12s. per gal. of the strength of proof by Sykes' hydrometer. Any greater or less strength than the strength of proof, when not dutiable at a higher rate under the heading of medicines liable to 25 per cent. *ad val.*, in proportion.

**MONAZITE-DEPOSITS IN BRAZIL.**—The Brazilian Government has refused to confirm the renewal of the concessions to Mr. John Gordon, an American, to remove monazite-sands from the sea-beaches in Bahia, and also the transfer to him of the concessions granted to Mr. S. S. Schindler, Srs. A. Ribeiro & Co., and Mr. S. Manoel Gonçalves Duarte. This, it is expected, will defeat the organisation of a monopoly for working these valuable sands. The Minister decides that each grantee should have his concession surveyed and should confine his operations within its limits, which is proper and right.

**HUNGARIAN PHARMACY.**—Special regulations for permission to trade in drugs and poisons came into force in Hungary on November 3. According to these concessions for opening a pharmacy will be given by the Minister of the Interior, and such concessions can only be obtained by a qualified apotheker (magister), or those who have had at least three years' practical experience in a drug-business and possess the necessary qualifications. The present proprietors of pharmacies who cannot fulfil these requirements must either acquire them themselves within a year, or appoint a suitably qualified director of the business. Widows of proprietors must do the same. Magisters of pharmacy must not use their titles on the signs or other advertisement of the business.

**GERMAN COMMERCIAL INFORMATION BUREAU.**—The Deutsche Handelstag, which is the German equivalent of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, has now received replies to the inquiries addressed a few months ago to the chambers of commerce throughout Germany in reference to a proposal to establish a Government or independent bureau for the collection and dissemination of commercial information of all kinds for the promotion of German trade and industry in all parts of the world. Of the replies received, twenty-two chambers of commerce, including Berlin, Halle, Wiesbaden, and Heilbronn, are in favour of the establishment of a commercial information bureau, thirty-one chambers are against the scheme, these including Hamburg, Leipsic, Danzig, Hanover, Munich, Chemnitz, and Elberfeld, whilst eight chambers suggest the adoption of a less elaborate scheme on a limited basis. The Deutsche Handelstag has yet to consider what action should be taken in view of the tenour of the above answers.

**STATE PHARMACY.**—A Dr. Muzarelli has elaborated a law of fifty-five sections which he thinks will be the salvation of Italian pharmacy. That profession, he considers, is in a deplorable condition, not only on account of the spread of specialities, but also because of the large amount of swindling (he calls it) done in various ways, and more especially in the field of experimental chemistry. For this thesis Dr. Muzarelli has obtained the third prize in a competition instituted by the "Corriere Sanitario." He proposes that the Government has the monopoly of the manufacturing, storing, and distribution of all substances mentioned in the Pharmacopœia, also of all vaccines, sera, &c., prescribed in medicine. All private manufacturing, compounding, or sale of substances intended for healing-purposes would be prohibited. On the beginning of each year the Superior Council would undertake any necessary changes in the Pharmacopœia or prices of drugs. Pharmacy would be a department of the Ministry of Public Health, divided into three distinct divisions. A pharmacy would be provided for every 5,000 inhabitants, the pay of the pharmacist to be 2,400 lire, and lodgings. No medicaments would be supplied unless on prescription. At the seat of the prefect of the province there would be a "provincial pharmacist" as inspector, and a large laboratory and stock. The education of the pharmacist would occupy four years, finishing up with the passing of the "Laureate" at the Pharmaceutical Faculty of the University of Rome. The whole scheme is very fully elaborated, the steps suggested being first that the qualified man should, as a provincial pharmacist, be attached to one of the three divisions (manufacture, storage, or distribution) as inspector, with a salary of 4,800 lire per annum. Then he would be promoted to chief of the section (6,000 lire salary), and the highest grade of all would be chief of the division, with a salary of 7,200 lire.

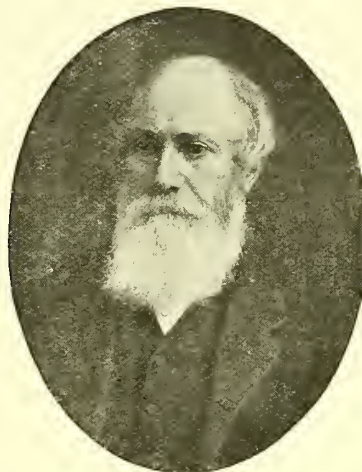
## Marriages.

**COPLEY—CANTRELL.**—On October 24, at The Antringhams, Sea Point, Cape Town, by the Rev. E. Baker, W. Dawn Copley, chemist and druggist, of Bulawayo, to Florence Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. E. W. and Mrs. Cantrell, of Birmingham.

**KINGSTON—WILLIAMS.**—On November 14, at St. George's Parish Church, Dublin, by the Rev. E. T. Crozier, M.A., Richard Kingston, L.P.S.I., son of Matthew Kingston, Cork, to Kathleen, daughter of George Williams, Dublin.

## Deaths.

**BEETHAM.**—At Cheltenham, on November 4, Mr. Michael Beetham, chemist and druggist, senior partner in the firm of M. Beetham & Son, and inventor of the world-known "Beetham's glycerine and cucumber." Aged 84. The late Mr. Beetham was the son of a Doncaster wine-merchant, and commenced business as a chemist in the High Street, Cheltenham, in 1846. The business was afterwards removed to 7 Promenade Villas, where it was carried on till 1881, when



another removal was made to the firm's present premises at 22 Promenade Villas. Mr. Beetham retired from active participation in the business about thirteen years ago, and it has since been carried on by Mr. W. C. Beetham. The deceased took little part in public affairs. In addition to his only son, who carries on the business, Mr. Beetham leaves one daughter, his wife having died a few months ago. The funeral took place at the Cheltenham Cemetery on November 16.

**BONNER.**—On November 7, Mr. Edward Bonner, chemist and druggist, Heanor, Derbyshire. Aged 89.

**CHANCE.**—At Matlock, on November 15, from bronchitis and pneumonia, Mr. John Homer Chance. Aged 73. The deceased gentleman was a son of Mr. Robert Lucas Chance, and was chairman of Chance Brothers, Spen Lane Glass-works, as well as a partner in the alkali-works at Oldbury, but took no active part in the management of the latter. He was a man of great benevolence. It was largely through his aid and efforts that the West Bromwich District Hospital was built, and he also helped to found the Institute and technical classes of the district.

**FAWCETT.**—On November 11, Mr. Thomas Wheelwright Fawcett, chemist and druggist, Bridlington. Aged 60.

**MILLER.**—On November 11, at Marine Cottage, Howth, Robert Miller, for the last thirty years an employe of Messrs. Hodgson McMaster & Co., chemists and druggists, Chapel Street, Dublin. The funeral took place on November 14.

**PETERS.**—At Gourrock, on October 28, Mr. John Peters, chemist and druggist. Aged 74.



## Winter Session.

Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

### Chemical Society.

THURSDAY evening, November 15, was exceedingly organic. First came Dr. F. E. MATTHEWS, of Cooper's Hill, with a communication on

#### TRICHLOROBENZOIC ACID.

This was the natural sequel to his paper at the first meeting of the session, in which he spoke of the action of chlorine and sunlight on benzonitrile. This results in the production of benzonitrile hexachloride. Acting upon this with alcoholic caustic soda Dr. Matthews got a mixture of trichlorobenzoic acids. Four of the six possible trichlorobenzoic acids are known. In the mixture Dr. Matthews found one of the missing two—viz., that with the Cl in the 3, 5, 6 positions. The missing one is 2, 5, 6. Dr. Matthews found that his new acid is best made by acting on the nitrile with quinoline; this gives the nitrile of the new acid,  $C_6H_2Cl_3CN$ , and on steam-distillation the acid is obtained pure; m.p.,  $87^\circ C$ . Salts were prepared, including the ethyl ester, which has the odour of ethyl benzoate.

There was no discussion on the paper, and the PRESIDENT (Professor Thorpe, C.B.) jokingly remarked that he hoped the theft of platinum from Cooper's Hill laboratories would not interfere with Dr. Matthews's admirable research.

Dr. GEORGE YOUNG, of Sheffield, then occupied the platform with observations on the "Oxidation of Benzalthiosemicarbazone," by him and Mr. William Eyre, B.Sc., and Dr. HEWITT followed with "The Nitration of Benzeneazosalicylic Acid." Finally Mr. WALTER H. JOLLYMAN read a paper by himself and Mr. Walter O. C. Pakes, which described experiments on

#### THE GASES PRODUCED BY BACTERIA

growing in certain media. Starting with *Bacillus pyocyaneus*, they found that it absorbs oxygen to start with, but soon begins to give off that gas as well as carbon dioxide and nitrogen. But it also grew equally well in absence of oxygen if the medium contained nitrate of potash, and this also happened when hydrogen was the atmosphere supplied. The results generally indicate that the organism is aerobic and anaerobic—in fact, that these terms require looking into.

The candidates to be balloted for on Thursday, December 6, include the following connected with pharmacy:—

Frederick Nisbet Binks, 2 Hollywell Terrace, Millbourne Avenue, Drumcondra, Dublin, lecturer on theoretical chemistry to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Arthur Louis William Fechtner, 186 Spring Bank, Hull, chemist and druggist.

William Gasson, Kimberley, South Africa, chemist and druggist.

John Gibson, Battle Hill, Hexham, Northumberland, chemist and druggist.

William Arthur Hargreaves, Port Adelaide, South Australia, lecturer on chemistry to the College of Pharmacy, Queensland.

George S. V. Wills, "Southwood," Croham Road, South Croydon, principal of the Westminster College of Chemistry.

### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE meeting held at 73 Newman Street, W., on Thursday evening, November 15, was devoted to short papers. Mr. DEWHIRST (the President) called the meeting to order after the usual cup of coffee and social chat.

The first paper was on the

#### PRESERVATION OF PLANTS.

On this subject Mr. J. WICLIFFE PECK read a short paper. He mentioned that one of the first things formed by green plants from carbon dioxide and water is formic aldehyde, which exists in larger proportion in green leaves exposed to sunlight than in plants grown in the shade. This gave him

the idea of suggesting formic aldehyde for preserving the green colour of plants. He experimented with it by immersing botanical specimens in 1, 10, 20, and 40 per cent. aqueous solutions of formic aldehyde. In all cases the tissues became more or less translucent. The solutions were apt to extract the colouring-matter from the specimens of flowers or leaves, and unless the specimens were kept in the dark they were entirely bleached. It was observed in the case of a specimen of mignonette, after four months in the solution, that its perfume was quite distinct and stronger than the penetrating odour of the formic aldehyde. Some specimens, however, were perfect; thus belladonna flower, fruit, and leaf kept two years in a 10-per-cent. solution, the purplish colouring of the flowers only being slightly lost when compared with those kept in a 40-per-cent. solution. The experiments altogether showed that a 5-per-cent. solution is best for preserving vegetable specimens. Red flowers lose 30 to 50 per cent. of the colouring-matter, and blue flowers are bleached, but other colours keep very well.

No discussion of any moment being forthcoming,

Mr. FOTHERGILL communicated a series of

#### DISPENSING NOTES.

Quininae sulph.	...	...	...	gr. xvij.
Liq. arsenicalis	...	...	...	℥xij.
Liq. atropin.	...	...	...	℥j.
Pulv. gum. acaciae	...	...	...	gr. xij.
Ext. gentian	...	...	...	q.s.

Ft. massa et divide in pil. xij.

This gives a very soft pasty mass. A good pill is obtained as follows:—(1) Substitute for the acacia powdered gentian gr. vj.; (2) evaporate the liquor arsenicalis gently down to half its bulk; (3) use ext. gentian. gr. vj., and two or three drops of syrup to mass with. Have the gentian and quinine ready mixed, and to them add the evaporated liquor with 1 minim of liquor atropinae, then add the extract and syrup, and mass.

Phosphori	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{3}$
Acidi arsen.	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{60}$
Strychninae	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{40}$
Quin. sulph.	...	...	...	gr. j.
Zinci valer.	...	...	...	gr. j.

M. Ft. pil. Mitte xxiv.

In order to keep these pills perfectly white, seum phosphoratum 10 per cent. should be used. The best excipient is pulv. acaciae (gr.  $\frac{1}{4}$  to each pill) and S.V.R., the former added to bind the mass, the latter to create adhesiveness.

Ferri sulph.	...	...	...	gr. ij.
Ext. coloc. co.	...	...	...	gr. j.
Ext. aloes aq.	...	...	...	gr. j.

Ft. pil. j.

These are rather troublesome. When rolling out the mass crumbles. It is necessary to add pulv. glycyrrh. gr.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and pulv. tragacanth. co. gr.  $\frac{1}{4}$  to give stability and combining-power; then, after adding a few drops of a mixture of glycerin and water, mass with conf. rosae. This method gives a stable pill.

Caffeinae hydrobrom.	...	...	gr. ij.
Lithii benzoatis	...	...	gr. iss.
Zinci valerianatis	...	...	gr. j.

Ft. pil. Mitte xxiv.

On mixing the ingredients a soft pasty mass is formed, and it is evident that some chemical reaction takes place between the caffeine hydrobromide and zinc valerianate; probably valerianic acid and water are set free. The best results were obtained by drying the caffeine hydrobromide carefully over a water-bath, and adding to the other salts ready mixed in mortar with pulv. glycyrrh. gr.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and calcei phosph. gr.  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Mass rapidly with a drop or two of glucose syrup, roll out sharply, and varnish at once.

Potassii iodidi	...	...	3ij.
Ol. limonis	...	...	℥v.
Lanolini	...	...	3ij.
Vasellini albi ad	...	...	3ij.

Ft. ung.

This, when made properly, should be of a light straw colour



but if the lanoline be slightly acid chemical action takes place with the potassium iodide, and the ointment becomes reddish yellow. It was noted that the top layer from the lanoline-tin gave an acid reaction, showing that the base becomes acid on exposure.

Mr. MORLEY TAYLOR considered that the dispenser would be justified in using a trituration of arsenic when making the liquor arsenicalis pills, and to soothe his conscience he might add a little liquor potassæ.

Mr. LATREILLE asked if, in the case of the lanoline and potassium-iodide ointment, Mr. Fothergill was sure that the mortar he used was perfectly clean.

Mr. FOTHERGILL, replying, assured Mr. Latreille of the cleanliness of his utensils, and told Mr. Taylor that, seeing the doctor had ordered the liquor in the first prescription, he thought it was his duty to use it and nothing else.

#### CHEMISTS AND THE WAR.

Mr. H. ERNEST HALL, of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST editorial staff, presented a *résumé* of the pharmaceutical events connected with the South African war, beginning with the purchase of medical and surgical supplies by the Boer Government from Johannesburg chemists in September, 1899, and the commandeering of further supplies later on. After glancing at the part played by the drug-trade in subscribing to the Lord Mayor's War Fund, Mr. Hall went on to speak of the chemists in Mafeking, volunteering by druggists in London, the equipment of the *Maine*, and the service of such men as Lieutenant Whiffen, of the Inniskilling Fusiliers, and Surgeon-Major Babbie, V.C., son of a Dumbarton pharmacist. He next spoke of the call by the War Office for Volunteer compounders of medicine for service in South Africa. Candidates were required between the ages 21 and 35, holding the Minor certificate, or who had been practically employed in dispensing medicine for three years. They were to enlist for the term of the war, and to receive 3s. 6d. per day, their rations, kit, and passage to and from South Africa, and a gratuity of two months' pay at the end of the war, as well as any gratuity that might be granted to the troops. The response to this call was enormously greater than the army's requirements at the moment. Mr. Hall mentioned the names of those who had enlisted under these conditions, and some of the work that they had done in the course of the campaign. He recalled the names of those connected with the drug-trade who had fallen, and spoke of the patriotic part which had been played by colonial chemists. The enrolment of the C.I.V. was then referred to, as well as the sieges of Mafeking, Kimberley, and Ladysmith, and in conclusion Mr. Hall said, "Up to the present no pharmaceutical authority has taken public notice of the fact that a large body of members of the craft has been engaged as a volunteer part of the British Army in one of the greatest wars in which the Empire has been involved. It would be a graceful act for the Pharmaceutical Societies of the British Islands to keep some visible record of those who had served and returned, and to pay some tribute to the memory of those who had fallen by the way."

Mr. Hall's paper was much appreciated, but no suggestions for perpetuating the memory of the compounders were put forward. One member thought that all the compounders who were in London should be invited to the Association's annual reunion.

#### Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting was held on Wednesday evening, November 14, at the Hotel Metropole, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mr. Charles Ridley (President) in the chair. Mr. Forman, Newcastle, and Mr. Fothergill, Cullercoats, were elected members of the Association.

The PRESIDENT delivered an address. Referring to the rejection of Clauses 2 and 3 of the Companies Bill, Mr. Ridley spoke of the good work that had been done by local associations in interviewing members of Parliament with reference to that Bill, stating that partly owing to these means Clause 2 had been rejected. He regretted, however, the omission of Clause 3. He remarked about the inclusion in Part II. of the Poisons Schedule of carbolic acid after many years, and trusted that it would not take anything like that length of time to get a new Pharmacy Act passed. He

believed the interests of the trade would be better looked after by the new system of divisional secretaries, stating that in his opinion "local secretaries in the past had had a thankless task, and far too much to do gratuitously for a man who had a business to attend to." Mr. Ridley urged upon chemists



MR. CHARLES RIDLEY.

the advisability of combination, and to promote discussion submitted the following points, which in his opinion might be borne in mind when drafting a new Pharmacy Bill, viz. :—

1. That the title of pharmaceutical chemist and chemist and druggist be reserved for those only who have earned it by passing the examination of the Pharmaceutical Society.

2. That the names of students, after passing the Qualifying examination, be not placed on the register until they have joined the Pharmaceutical Society, and also that the Council should have power, like the legal and medical, of removing from the register the name of any member found guilty of any serious offence.

3. That chemists and druggists be exempt from jury-service.

4. That all limited companies carrying on business as chemists and druggists be compelled to give notice to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of the name of the registered chemist who is responsible for the carrying out of the Pharmacy Act, and to give immediate notice of any subsequent change. Failure to comply with these regulations to be punished by a heavy penalty against the company.

Mr. Ridley was thanked for his paper, which was followed by an animated discussion. The annual dinner was fixed for December 12, ladies to be invited.

#### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

THE fifth meeting of the present session was held on November 15, Mr. Harold Wyatt, jun., occupying the chair in the absence of the President (Mr. A. S. Buck), who was indisposed.

Mr. T. Newcombe (of Liscard) was elected a member.

Mr. HAROLD WYATT said, in reference to his paper on

#### INF. SENEGÆ,

read at the previous meeting, that his attention had been directed by a French pharmacist to a note which appeared in the October number of *L'Union Pharmaceutique* on "Ordinary and Concentrated Infusions," by Gaston Pegurier. The value of infusion of senega made fresh and that of the infusion made from the diluted liquor senegæ of the British Pharmacopœia had been therein determined, the stronger preparation, in the author's opinion, being that from the diluted liquor. However, one's faith in the accuracy of this conclusion was scarcely strengthened when one read



further on that infusion and liquor calumbæ had also been compared, "prepared after the B.Ph., following to the letter the *modus operandi* therein indicated, and that the infusion had been obtained by treating with boiling water for half an hour—double (*sic*) the time employed in preparing the infusion of senega of the Codex [*i.e.* B.P.] in question." If M. Pegurier had carefully read the B.P. he would have seen that cold water is used for inf. calumb., and that both calumba and senega are infused for the same length of time. Naturally, his yield of "organic extractive" from such an infusion was immense, compared with that from the diluted liquor, but the greater part would be starch, with little therapeutic value.

Mr. A. C. ABRAHAM then read his paper on

#### THE BRITISH PHARMACOPEIA AND ITS CRITICS.

Mr. Abraham's paper had reference to the matters dealt with in Dr. Attfield's "Report for 1898 of the Progress of Pharmacy in its Relation to the Future Revision of the British Pharmacopœia," the essayist explaining that he preferred to make his comments publicly, where they could be criticised, rather than privately.

*Aqua Sambuci.*—Hyslop condemns the use of "effete salted stuff." He did not know what Mr. Hyslop meant by this, but in his opinion salted elder-flowers are best, and his practice was to salt them always before distilling. As to the water keeping good for twelve months, it required, in his opinion, several months to attain its proper fragrance, and then it kept perfectly for twelve months or longer.

*Extractum Ergotæ.*—The criticisms of this article seem to have been on the whole favourable, but he had heard nothing definite in its favour, and would be sorry to recommend its use in any important case in place of Bonjean's. Moreover, the preparation separated into two layers, and whether either or both are active is an important question, as there is always a liability of the one portion being used to the exclusion of the other unless great care is taken to mix the layers well before using.

*Glycerinum Acidi Borici.*—Why this preparation should be made by such a troublesome process simply with the object of getting rid of water, which is again taken up when it is used, puzzled him. If the process produced a convenient preparation one could understand the procedure, but it produces a most inconveniently thick liquid difficult to use. The makers of boro-glyceride had apparently long since come to the conclusion that the best way to deal with it was simply to mix. If this plan is good enough for mel boracis why not for glycerinum acid. boric.? As, however, the preparation is practically never used, it will probably share the fate of other badly devised official preparations, and be improved out of the Pharmacopœia.

*Hydrargyri Oleas.*—Medical men have for so long been in the habit of ordering 5, 10, or 20 per cent. oleates that this preparation has no significance for them. If a footnote had been inserted explaining that it is equivalent to about a 25-per-cent. oleate of the old kind, medical men would have known with what they were dealing.

*Liquor Calumbæ Conc.*—The author was much surprised to hear that this preparation is supposed to be ten times the strength of the infusion, because for many years he had been making a concentrated infusion eight times the strength of the Pharmacopœia with exactly the same proportion of calumba as is ordered for this, and by a very similar process. He could quite confirm the advisability of treating calumba by the maceration and pressure process, but certainly not by that of the Pharmacopœia, which is both tedious and unsatisfactory. The Pharmacopœia process can only be properly carried out by the manufacturer who has the most perfect appliances—a restriction which is undesirable. Bird says "the quantity of expressed liquid obtained from a drug like calumba depends on the power of the press, hence an element of uncertainty exists which is likely to cause variation in the product." This is perfectly correct, and as Dr. Attfield asks for "figures or other data indicating the degree of medical or pharmaceutical importance of this element of uncertainty," he had made the following experiments. Three lots of 10 oz. of calumba, passed through a No. 5 sieve, were taken. One lot was treated as directed by the Pharmacopœia, an ordinary screw-press being employed; another the same, but employing a powerful hydraulic press;

the third was treated with all the water at once. The results were as follows:—

		Total Product	Sp. Gr. Mixed Product	Extractive in 1 fl. dr. finished product
1. P.B. process	First pressing 1½	12½	1.029	1.3
Screw press ..	Second " 11			
2. P.B. process	First " 5½	14½	1.032	2.2
Hydraulic press ...	Second " 9			
3. One maceration, hydraulic press ...	—	15½	1.029	2.2

Nos. 2 and 3 were subjected to 100 and 150 tons pressure at which the bags burst. The extra product obtained from No. 3 was probably not due to the extra pressure, as calumba macerated in water alone is not adapted to the employment of high pressure, but to the avoidance of waste necessarily following upon two operations.

*Mel Boracis.*—In this case Dr. Attfield suggests that if the use of a warm mortar will enable the borax to be dissolved it might be used without official sanction, but it seemed to the author that it would not be right to take such liberties with the Pharmacopœia.

*Pulsis Cretæ Aromat.*—Leech is quoted as follows:—"Saffron seems a useless substance. It is not known to have any medicinal effect, and it is, moreover, an expensive drug." To this he would reply that saffron is certainly an active drug, and as it has been for a long time an ingredient of preparations which have a well-recognised medicinal effect, it is a pure assumption to impute the activity of such preparations to the other ingredients. Pil. aloes et myrrh. is a well-recognised and useful article, and no one has a right to say that its activity is due any more to the myrrh than to the saffron. He expected this preparation to fall into disuse now that it has had one of its most important ingredients omitted on account of a miserable false economy.

*Tr. Zingiberis Fortior.*—Why this preparation should have been nominally left out of the Pharmacopœia when it had really been retained is difficult to understand. It is still required for making the syrup, and as medical men never order it unless they perhaps want their patients to take away a concentrated preparation when they are travelling, there seemed no adequate reason for its omission.

*Tinctures.*—Under this heading Dr. Attfield quotes from THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY a defence of the present practice of not making up tinctures prepared by the maceration process to a definite measure. As this improvement was, he thought, due to his own condemnation of the previous very incorrect practice of diluting tinctures in proportion to the weakness of the press employed, he need hardly say he regarded it as a great improvement. The sp. gr. tables of the tinctures of the British Pharmacopœia given by Dr. Attfield will be found of use from time to time.

*Unguentum Cetacei.*—Reference is made to Macmillan's statement that this ointment is better prepared by setting aside to cool without stirring. It would be interesting to know whether anybody else could confirm this: he certainly could not, and should greatly question the purity of the ingredients employed if a good ointment were prepared by such means.

*Unguentum Conii.*—Dr. Attfield says that the boric acid ordered in the 1890 Additions did not always prevent mouldiness. It answered for all practical purposes, and the present one without it is certainly an abomination.

*Unguentum Hydrargyri Oxidi Rubri.*—He believed a great mistake had been made in making this ointment with a paraffin base. Its consumption since the change had been reduced to about one-fourth. Could this be wondered at? Could they reasonably expect red oxide of mercury to exert its activity as well when it is coated with paraffin, the very name of which one would suppose to be sufficient to condemn it? He quite expected to see this ointment, which was a very favourite one, gradually drop out of use.

Mr. Abraham finished up his very interesting notes by



expressing surprise that criticisms of the Pharmacopœia had diminished of late. It was only now that pharmacists had sufficient experience of the practical working of the Pharmacopœia processes to enable them to form a just estimate of the processes; and on a future occasion he hoped to allude to other points, some of which seem to him of even greater importance than those dealt with that evening. (Applause.)

## DISCUSSION.

Mr. WYATT said they were much indebted to Mr. Abraham for his intensely practical paper. He had every opportunity of seeing the preparations of the B.P. being worked out under his own supervision, and was an authority on the subject. He quite agreed with the observations in regard to aqua sambuci. Elder-flowers certainly did not suffer by being salted, notwithstanding what Mr. Hyslop might say. The odour at the end of twelve months was good, if not improved by the process. As to the ext. ergot., he had had little experience of the B.P. preparation, but after a prolonged acquaintance with Bonjean's method he could only say it was hard to beat. In the case of the oleate of mercury it is very desirable that the strength should be stated. Doctors in many cases have little or no notion of making comparisons between the strength of such preparations. The employment of maceration and pressure in inf. calumb. seems to be a very good move, and the fact that a stronger preparation was obtained by adding more water was a point worthy of recognition. In reference to the pulv. cret. arom. he quite agreed with Mr. Abraham as to the unjustifiable deletion of the saffron. It is worthy of note that the constituents struck out of preparations as being non-essential were most generally the most costly. He quite thought that it was a pity to alter pil. aloes et myrrh.; the form had gone for two hundred to three hundred years without alteration, and had acquired a deserved reputation among the medical profession and the public. The matter of tr. zingib. fort., in his opinion, was another instance of want of wisdom in making changes. The question of a table of gravities was worth considering. Ung. cetacei should not be allowed to cool without stirring. Ung. hyd. rub. was another case where the authorities had substituted that abomination of abominations—a paraffin base—for lard. It was difficult to make, and he found that many doctors now preferred ung. hyd. oxid. flav. to the ung. hyd. rub.

Mr. J. T. HORNBLLOWER said he had had a good deal of experience with liq. calumb. conc., and it is one of the most difficult preparations he had ever had to handle in large batches. In smaller quantities the process may be all right. Mr. Abraham's suggestion was important, and would no doubt improve the process. As to the omission of saffron it is a household remedy in many places, and unless some direct evidence could be produced as to its worthlessness it would be better retained in the older preparations, such as tr. rhei. As to tr. zingib. fort. he was under the impression that more was sold now than ever before.

Mr. J. SMITH said the deletion of saffron from preparations was very doubtful policy, as its therapeutic value is not correctly estimated. A great difference of opinion exists among medical men as to its virtues. Recently he had a call from one of the profession, who followed the teachings of Hahnemann, and he learned that saffron is a remedy for cancer. As pharmacists, it was not their province to judge of physiological effects, still in cases of doubt he thought that the old preparation should be left intact. As to ointments he believed Mr. Boa had recommended that some should be allowed to cool without stirring—for instance, resin and spermaceti ointments—a recommendation which was very unlikely to receive general approval. As to the Chairman's remarks about paraffin bases, he thought he had been a little too sweeping in his assertions as to their being abominations. He had found them to work well, and one, ung. boracis, had largely increased in consumption.

Mr. PROSPER H. MARSDEN said the question of the omission of saffron could not be decided upon the statement that it is inert. It was a mistake in his opinion to remove an ingredient which had been in use for the last 300 years in recognised preparations. In some country districts it is said to be an excellent emmenagogue, and in places pil. aloes et myrrh. are used by women for that purpose. As to the

ointments, his experience with one was not encouraging—he referred to ung. eucalypti, which, when made by the B.P. process, could not be used in any department of the Infirmary. Personally he preferred adeps lane hydrosus when an unguent was used as a medium for getting a medicament into the tissues.

Mr. ABRAHAM, in replying, said the Chairman had a little misunderstood him as to the salted elder-flowers. It was not necessary that the process should be a long one—a few weeks was ample for developing the aroma. As to the diminished consumption of ung. hyd. rub., he believed that the quantity used is only one-eighth what it was formerly. He would point out that the use of saffron in tr. rhei was not sanctioned by long usage: it was only inserted at a comparatively late date, and it was found that many people preferred the old form without it. As to Mr. Marsden's preference for adeps lane hydrosus, he was not surprised. The water in the preparation would act as a solvent for the medicaments, hence its action would be more rapid and thorough.

Mr. J. H. EVANS then read a communication on

## UGANDA ALOES.

Mr. Evans said several parcels of Uganda aloes had recently appeared on the market and had realised fairly high prices. It may be safely concluded that these parcels have been taken into consumption, and he therefore had thought it wise to make independent experiments to confirm or otherwise the results of those who have examined the new drug previously. Upon reference to the conclusions of Mr. E. M. Holmes and Messrs. W. A. H. Naylor and J. J. Bryant, they would observe that there were some striking differences from his own conclusions. The speaker pointed out that the sample he had examined yielded practically no aloin, and that the same result had followed the tests of another pharmacist who had devoted attention to the matter. The results obtained were as follows:—

—	HNO <sub>3</sub> Test	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> and HNO <sub>3</sub> Vapour	Matter Soluble in Water
Uganda	Brownish red	No change	65 per cent.
Barbados	Crimson	Slight bluish-green	69 "
Socotrine	Brownish red	No change	42 "
Cape ...	Brownish red	No change	60 "

It would be observed that while in many respects Uganda aloes resembles the other descriptions of aloes, in its solubility it is more like Barbados. It is, therefore, a very economical variety for manufacturing-purposes. Although the sample yielded practically no aloin, it would be interesting to see if it possesses the therapeutic properties which characterise the other varieties. The Uganda aloes yielded a very fine powder possessing a characteristic odour, and was particularly free from dirt.

In his opinion it is desirable that the position of Uganda aloes should be definitely determined, as in the present state of their knowledge it would appear that its employment in pharmaceutical preparations is not entirely justified.

The CHAIRMAN said that they were much indebted to Mr. Evans for drawing attention to this subject. The question of the development of the aloin might be due to the length of time the aloes had been kept, and no doubt the samples under review would develop aloin in due course. Still it is quite worth the while of medical men testing the drug physiologically, and if found suitable there is a large country from which it is possible to draw limitless supplies of good aloes. When examinations of drugs could be made on a large commercial scale, as in this case, the papers were particularly valuable.

Mr. COWLEY said he would like to thank Mr. Evans for his very useful note. The position of Uganda aloes has to be determined. It appeared to him that the drug, according to the specimen shown, had been prepared under exceptionally favourable conditions, and probably this accounted for the absence of aloin. Possibly the heat, and probably fermentation, which is associated with the gathering of other aloes, might tend to produce the difference indicated.

Mr. A. C. ABRAHAM was pleased to hear the paper from



Mr. Evans—as his maiden effort it did him great credit—and he was pleased to see a worthy successor to Mr. Conroy, and a renewal of that peculiar class of paper which had been so valuable in the past.

Mr. T. H. Wardleworth then showed a specimen of so-called rhatany-root from Peru, and also a pod of the kicksia. The seed of the latter may in time be employed as an adulterant of strophanthus-seeds.

### Barnsley and District Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Thursday, November 15, at the Royal Hotel, Barnsley. There were present Messrs. J. Wood, A. R. Tomlin, B. Ellisson, S. H. Willsher, G. A. Pickering, J. E. Matthew, H. B. Billington, A. Hollingworth, W. Moorhouse, J. P. Norwood, E. Nash, W. Rigby, and W. S. Glyn-Jones.

The SECRETARY submitted the report of the committee which had drawn up rules, and these were adopted.

The election of Council was the next business. Mr. James Wood was elected President, Messrs. A. R. Tomlin and J. B. Ellisson Vice-Presidents, Mr. E. Nash Treasurer, Mr. W. Rigby Secretary. Messrs. S. H. Willsher, H. B. Billington, W. Moorhouse, and J. P. Norwood were also elected members of the Council. It was decided that the Council arrange a dinner to celebrate the inauguration of the Association.

The PRESIDENT then called upon Mr. Glyn-Jones for his address on

#### THE P.A.T.A.

Mr. GLYN-JONES, in the first place, congratulated the members on the formation of the Association, and mentioned some of the things, even in the way of business assistance, which could be done by local co-operation. These included filling prescriptions for out-of-the-way medicines (as by getting the Secretary to keep a list of those who have odd liquors and the like), arrangements with carriers, and adjustment of weights and measures. He thought the Pharmaceutical Society should remit 5s. out of each guinea subscription to aid the local Associations. Mr. Glyn-Jones then referred to the work of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association and the good it had done the trade by securing greater profit on protected articles. The aggregate of this he put at 30,000% a year. The Chemists' Defence Association was also referred to, its objects explained, and its advantages in protection were illustrated by examples of the cases it had defended.

Mr. H. B. BILLINGTON asked how he would proceed in case of receiving a summons under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, supposing the summons was returnable in a few days; it would be difficult to prepare the case in time if he had to communicate with the C.D.A. headquarters in London and await their reply. He also asked whether the Association would defend a grocer, under the Acts, who had been supplied by a member. Some of them did a little wholesale trade with the grocers.

Mr. GLYN-JONES explained that the 1899 Act allowed at least fourteen days between serving the summons and the time it is returnable. The first thing to do after receiving the summons was to pack up the summons, the analyst's certificate, and the third sample left by the inspector, along with any further information to the Secretary, C.D.A., who would do the rest. The Association could not defend grocers who had been supplied by a member. It is essential that they should only defend members. In cases of this kind, however, they would give all the advice and information in their power.

Mr. J. WOOD, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Glyn-Jones for his address, said he was himself a P.A.T.A. man, and also a member of the C.D.A.

Mr. W. RIGBY formally seconded.

Mr. A. R. TOMLIN, in supporting, said he considered Mr. Glyn-Jones had, by his vigorous crusade, done more for the trade interests of chemists than the whole of the remainder of the Pharmaceutical Council had done in the last twenty years. So far as the P.A.T.A. was concerned, the benefits were not confined to the articles on the list, for, since chemists had been aroused to their position and power, several proprietors had found it to their interest to make more or less favourable agreements with their clients, whereby a profit for the distributor was assured. This was

certainly a thing they (the proprietors) never thought of before. His advice was to have nothing to do with new proprietaries until a living wage was assured. He considered the C.D.A. of vital importance to the trade, as it gave expert advice in matters about which the ordinary local lawyers had difficulty.

Mr. J. B. ELLISSON and Mr. H. B. BILLINGTON also spoke in terms of warm appreciation; and Mr. GLYN-JONES having suitably replied, a very successful meeting was brought to a close.

### Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association.

A SPECIAL meeting was held on Monday evening at the Church House, Dewsbury, to discuss Mr. Broadhead's draft Pharmacy Bill (see *C. & D.*, November 17, page 805). The President (Mr. W. Stead, of Heckmondwike) occupied the chair. Before commencing the business of the evening a resolution was adopted placing on record the Association's deep regret at the loss to it through the removal from the district of Mr. J. W. Cussons, one of the Vice-Presidents, its high appreciation of the valuable services rendered by him to the Association, and wishing him success in his new enterprise.

Mr. S. N. Pickard, of Bradford, who has taken over Mr. Cussons's business at Ossett, was elected a member of the Association.

A letter was read from Mr. Merson, the Federation Secretary, expressing regret at his inability to be present.

#### DISCUSSION ON THE BILL.\*

The PRESIDENT, referring to Clause 3 of Mr. Broadhead's draft Bill, thought the term "drug-store" should be protected as efficiently as the word "chemist." The public could not distinguish between the two.

Mr. BROADHEAD said he had received encouraging letters from different parts of the country, and some of his correspondents thought that the Bill was not comprehensive enough. He was quite of their opinion, but no Bill demanding the changes they would like would ever have a chance of success. He was pleased to find that the press endorsed the Bill as one in the main worthy of consideration and support. To THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST he was indebted for some hints and suggestions, and for raising the question as to his apparent change of attitude regarding Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act, known as the widows' clause. On that point his opinion was unaltered, but he was ready to sacrifice his views to the will of the majority of the trade. If he had followed his own inclinations he would have inserted in Clause 3 "no executors, administrators, or trustees," but that would have met with considerable opposition, not in Parliament, but on the part of their own members, many of whom were tintured with a benevolence which was without money and without price. He did not claim that his Bill was perfect, but did claim that it was a good groundwork, that it was a minimum of their requirements.

The PRESIDENT thought that the draft Bill was as much as Parliament would grant, although it was not what they might reasonably ask for. Chemists' associations had been twitted with the fact that they had indulged far too much in generalities; they had not set themselves to produce something that would not be destructive but constructive. They had, in fact, been invited to emerge from the abstract into the concrete, so to speak, and Mr. Broadhead's Bill was the reply.

Mr. R. GLEDHILL (Dewsbury) agreed that the draft Bill was a minimum of what they wanted; but he did not think it wise to go to Parliament with a minimum. They should go with a maximum, and it would get toned down to a minimum. If the draft Bill were toned down it might become another contemptible iteration of exemptions. He suggested the addition of the words "or any false declaration being made" to Clause 1, so as to meet cases of men lending

\* We may recall that Mr. Broadhead proposes in Clause 1 to make annual registration by chemists and druggists compulsory without fee; Clause 2 makes it necessary to have a registered chemist and druggist in charge of every shop kept open for the sale of poisons; and Clause 3 makes it unlawful for a company to use the titles provided by the Pharmacy Acts.—EDITOR.



their names for a consideration to shops which they probably never entered. With regard to Clause 2, he did not think it went far enough, and suggested the following addition:—

And in case of any registered chemist or druggist lending or allowing his name to appear on a place of business implying proprietorship, of which he is not proprietor or duly employed there as qualified assistant, the Pharmaceutical Council shall have power to strike his name off the register for as long a time as they deem fit, and he shall be liable to pay a fine not exceeding the sum of 5*l*.

Their title ought not to be allowed to go out at so much a week. He had heard of such cases, and was personally acquainted with one. The Bill, with the addition, would show the public that they were not fighting simply for a kind of monopoly, but that they were determined to clean their own ranks.

Mr. MALLINSON thought that the Bill would secure fair and reasonable protection of their title. He gathered that if Clause 3 were to become law all drug-companies would have to take down their signs and substitute the name of "Registered Chemist." Was this so?

Mr. DAY (Savile Town) did not agree that the keeping of the register should be taken out of the hands of the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society. He did not see why chemists should have to apply annually to be retained on the register. He was much more in favour of the two Irish clauses suggested by the *C. & D.*, which would meet their case. He also thought that Clause 3 would be fatal to any Bill. The present state of affairs had existed all these years, and they could not possibly go back. It was a great mistake to go in for so many things at a time, and he advocated that Clause 3 should be left out entirely. He pointed to the opposition to the Companies Bill in the last session of Parliament, and thought the question ought to be dealt with separately. So many members of Parliament were interested in the companies that the clause would have no chance of passing.

Mr. GLEDHILL: You want your title?

Mr. DAY: You will not get it, in my opinion.

Mr. BARKER (Heckmondwike) was glad to see that the owner of the shop, as well as the assistant, would be liable for any infringement of Clause 2. The prosecution of assistants had often been a farce. He would like to see words introduced into Clause 3 which would include the outward appearance of a shop—the carboys, &c.—within the meaning of the word "sign." The outward appearance of a shop did mislead the public into thinking the shop was that of a qualified chemist.

Mr. RHODES (Mirfield) disagreed with Mr. Day in shielding the companies. They ought to protect their titles, and would have a chance of doing so if they could clip the wings of the companies which had done so much damage. They owed a debt of gratitude to Mr. Broadhead for drafting such a useful Bill, which he endorsed *in toto*.

Mr. WALKER (Cleckheaton) presumed that if the Bill became law, and companies were no longer recognised as chemists, they would be unable to use their names, but would have to use those of qualified assistants. At present companies seemed to have a slipshod manner of selling their poisons, and produced a label bearing the names of eight or nine different towns.

Mr. DAY remarked that this was illegal, and there had recently been a prosecution.

Mr. G. WALKER (Dewsbury) supported the Bill, but agreed with Mr. Gledhill that they ought to ask for more.

Mr. GUTTERIDGE also expressed approval, and, after further discussion, Mr. BROADHEAD replied. He thought the President's suggestion was already covered by the Bill, and did not see how the specific words "drug-store" could be used. He adopted Mr. Gledhill's two suggestions. In reply to Mr. Mallinson, it would be necessary for companies to take down their present signs. The question was whether a judge would take a common-sense view and say that the name "drug-store" implied registration. There was no doubt that it did. If such a decision could be got Clause 3 would suffice. The Bill would make it difficult for the stores, but there was nothing to prevent a qualified man selling himself to a company. He thought it disgraceful for any chemist to sell himself to a drug-company and then be at the mercy of a smarter business man, who was probably only a grocer's assistant. The chemist in a drug-store must be manager,

and not be ordered about by unqualified men. He did not see how Clause 3 could be fatal to the Bill. It was the opinion of the bulk of the members of the Pharmaceutical Council; those who disagreed were interested. As to the outward appearance of shops, he did not see how they could get at that. Nor did he think it would be a hardship for chemists to have to apply annually for retention on the register. In answer to a further question, Mr. Broadhead pointed out that in a drug-store the registered assistant would be the seller and the responsible person under the Pharmacy Act. He added that the two principal journals approved of his Bill, and the only thing that he was afraid of was the omission of the executors. They were simply trying to give the opinion of a provincial Association which was composed, to a certain extent, of level-headed men.

Mr. DAY suggested an amendment of Clause 2 to include the compounding of medical prescriptions.

Mr. BROADHEAD then moved the following resolution:—

The Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association desires to submit to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society the accompanying draft Bill as a basis for some future legislation and the minimum of what is necessary in the interest of the public and for our own protection. We also beg to suggest to the Council the following additions if practicable (then follow the several suggestions made by the members as above).

Mr. R. GLEDHILL seconded, and the resolution was unanimously adopted, the meeting then ending.

### Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

THE session for 1900-1, which opened with the annual dinner last week, will be continued until April. On December 12 there will be a discussion on the proposed draft Pharmacy Bill; on January 2 a prize competition for assistants and apprentices; a week later a paper on "The Inertness of Pure Substances," by Mr. E. J. Russell, B.Sc., illustrated with experiments; on February 13 "The Evolution of Medicine" will be described by Mr. F. H. Westmacott, F.R.C.S.; on March 14 Mr. Mark L. Sykes, F.R.M.S., of the Manchester Microscopical Society, will deal with "Smallpox, Vaccination, and the Microscope," illustrated with lantern-views; and on April 10 the annual general meeting will be held, followed by a smoking-concert.

### Glasgow Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on November 14, Mr. J. P. Gilmour (President) in the chair. A paper on

#### SHOP-LIFE

was read by Mr. J. P. TAYLOR.

Mr. Taylor alleged that, to most men, shopkeeping is the most monotonous of occupations, and that drug-shop keeping is the dullest. He referred to the conditions of labour in surgeries where only one dispenser is employed, practically alone for ten or twelve hours each day, and said that this loneliness—causing, as it does, these men to brood over and magnify grievances real or imaginary, and creating a thirst for excitement as a counterpoise to the day's dreariness—has a depressing and demoralising effect. After referring to work carried on under these conditions as "mere soulless drudgery," Mr. Taylor advocated that every shopkeeper should have a hobby, and spoke of the importance of cultivating patience. Anecdotes of eccentric customers filled up the rest of the paper.

Mr. GILMOUR thought Mr. Taylor too pessimistic, and said that to men of a studious nature shop-life might be not only congenial but actually enjoyable.

Mr. PTEFFER, Mr. BUGLAS, and Mr. WHITE also took part in the discussion.

### Chemists' Assistants' Union.

THE Union has obtained new quarters in the Institute, Paddington Street, W., which is connected with St. Marylebone Church. There a meeting was held on Tuesday evening, November 20, when Mr. C. E. Pickering presided over an audience of about a score, including four ladies, one



of whom was in nurse's garb. Routine business having been transacted, sixteen new members (mostly provincial) were elected, the PRESIDENT stating that the membership now exceeds 100.

He then read a paper on the

#### AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE UNION.

He sketched its progress from its inception early in 1898, stating that it was formed with the primary object of promoting in every possible way the best interests of every assistant in the trade by improving the conditions of labour, shortening the hours, and raising the salary. The members were not antagonistic towards the masters. Diplomacy was to be their standpoint, and they did not seek to control the hours that any proprietor chose to keep his pharmacy open, but to get a minimum of working-hours for assistants. After touching upon the Employment Bureau Department of the Union, he referred to Rule 19, which prohibits members of the Union from taking employment in the stores, and suggested that it should be amended or expunged, for as long as the Pharmaceutical Society does not make such conduct an unprofessional act, the Union would not be justified in interfering. He then sketched the programme for the session, stating that next month a new member in Dover, who had been engaged as a military compounder in the United States and British Armies, would give his experiences. In January a Bohemian concert is anticipated, and in February trade subjects will be discussed, the winter programme being finished in March with a dinner. During the summer an excursion to one of the well-known herb-farms will be arranged, and visits will be made to some of the largest manufacturing chemists in and around London. With the idea of extending the influence of the Union, arrangements are to be made with all the Chemists' Assistants' Associations throughout the kingdom, by which every one of their members would without extra charge become members of the C.A.U. He proposed to recommend further to the Council that they grant the second year's membership free to any member who had added at least a dozen new members to their body during the year of his current subscription, and other inducements were held out as encouragement to join and work for the Union. They might in time, he thought, provide annuities and insurance against accidents, illnesses, and other exigencies of the trade, and even the benefits of a residential club for junior members studying in London.

The discussion was bright, vigorous, and wordy. Mr. BROOKE CLEGG modestly opened it with strong support of Mr. PICKERING's idea of housing students. Mr. WHINERAY as strongly supported direct representation on the Pharmaceutical Council, and announced his intention of working day and night to obtain that end. The Union had no intention of fostering anything in the nature of a strike, because, for one thing, he did not consider that there was enough backbone among chemists' assistants to strike, but they wished to attain their ends diplomatically, and first of all by organisation and unity. He moved—

That this meeting resolves that the Council of the C.A.U. be urged to recommend the following as minimum salaries for chemists' assistants:—For unqualified men just out of their apprenticeship, 40*l.* indoors and 100*l.* outdoors; for newly-qualified and experienced men, 80*l.* indoors and 156*l.* outdoors. |

This was seconded by Mr. S. COKE, after which Mr. STROTHER, in his characteristic manner, put before the meeting the masters' side of the question. He thought it was a mistake to lay down a hard-and-fast rule with regard to minimum salaries. He asked them to remember that they might make salaries 200*l.* a year if they liked, and gave an instance of the kind where a smart assistant at 100*l.* a year indoors suggested to his governor that he should have 10 per cent. of the takings above the highest point ever reached in the business. That was agreed upon, and the first year the takings went up by 1,000*l.* Generally, Mr. Strother's position was that labour conditions are a matter of agreement between the masters and assistants; the latter agreed to do a certain thing, and they ought not to try to back out of it.

Mr. WHINERAY thought Mr. Strother's backing up the masters must not be taken to be universally applicable. He instanced a case in the Midlands where a record was kept of

men whom a certain firm kept for not more than three weeks at a time. He also knew a man in London who never keeps an assistant more than three weeks. Mr. WRIGHT (Secretary) was even more impassioned in his eloquence against Mr. Strother's views. He differed, he said, from all his fellow-members of the Union in their desire, above all things, to be peaceful. He agreed that it was best to work on those lines if possible, but to his mind assistants had schemes and ideas of their own which it was necessary that they should work out independently of the masters, and if they could not amicably attain them he would be in favour of fighting for them. Since the Wheeldon case chemists' assistants were in a much better position. The Pharmaceutical Society compelled them to pass their examination in order to get a living, and he thought they were entitled to demand in return a fair living wage and better conditions of labour. It was ridiculous for Mr. Strother to say that if an assistant could not get his own terms he need not accept a situation. The majority of assistants could not afford to do that; when a man is poor he has to knuckle down to anything, and if conditions are laid down for him in order to obtain a bare living, he must accept them.

Mr. PETER MACEWAN thanked the President for the invitation to be present, and said the C.A.U. should take care not to misdirect its efforts. He thought running a candidate for the Pharmaceutical Council was an example of misdirected effort. If an assistant got on the Council he would find that he was like a fish out of water. It would pay the Union better to get a strong member of the Council to represent them and make any petitions which they desired. In regard to the conditions of labour, he considered it a mistake to attack bits of the subject at a time; they should aim to have the indoor system, which was not a proper one for inducing the best relations between employer and employé, abolished entirely, and popularise the outdoor system.

Mr. PICKERING having briefly replied, the resolution was unanimously adopted, and before those present dispersed coffee was served in the tea-room.

## New Books.

Barton, F. T. *Veterinary Manual*. 7½ × 5. Pp. 506. 10*s.* 6*d.* (Everett.)

Bernhard, O. *First-Aid to the Injured*. Special Reference to Accidents in Mountains. Translated from German. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 144. 2*s.* 6*d.* (Unwin.)

Cohn, L. *Introduction to Modern Scientific Chemistry: Popular Lectures*. Translated from German by M. M. Pattison Muir. 58 illus. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 356. 6*s.* (Grevel.)

Crofts, A. *How to Make a Dynamo to Produce Electric Light*. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 144. 2*s.* (Lockwood.)

Hovenden, F. *What is Heat? What is Electricity?* Diagrams. 9½ × 5½. Pp. 346. 6*s.* (Chapman & Hall.)

Galt, H. *Microscopy of the More Commonly Occurring Starches*. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 108. Illustrated with 22 microphotographs. 3*s.* 6*d.* (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.)

Meldola, Raphael. *Inorganic Chemistry, Non-metallic and Metallic Elements*. Revised to date by J. Castell Evans, F.I.C. Fifth edition. 6½ × 4½. Pp. 320. 2*s.* (Thomas Murby, 3 Ludgate Circus Buildings, E.C.)

Stewart, C. E. *The Law of Bankruptcy*. Showing the Proceedings from Bankruptcy to Discharge, also the General Rights of Creditors and Debtors, and the Duties of Trustees in Bankruptcy; with an Appendix of Costs, Fees, and Percentages. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 199. 2*s.* (Effingham Wilson, 11 Royal Exchange.)

STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR WEST COAST OF AMERICA.—The Pacific Steam Navigation Company, a British firm, and the South American, a Chilean company, are contemplating an extension of their lines from Central America to San Francisco. This service, now being rendered by the Kosmos steamers, appears to be a success. The boats leave Valparaiso, call at the principal coast ports to Guayaquil, and go thence to Central American and North Pacific ports, not calling at Panama. They take and drop cargo on the trip north and generally return with full loads south.



## Trade Notes.

MESSRS. KAY BROTHERS (LIMITED), Stockport, ask us to state that their counter-bills measure 11 inches by 9 inches, and 6 inches by 7½ inches.

MESSRS. ROBERT FERBER & Co, 195 Southwark Bridge Road, S.E., are getting along. They have recently appointed a traveller for Ireland, and a travelling agent for Eastern Europe.

MESSRS. PARNALL & SONS (LIMITED), Bristol, are refitting the Medical Hall in Darling Street, Enniskillen, which, as stated in our last week's issue, has been acquired by Mr. Taylor, L.P.S.I.

PRICES OF LINT.—In Messrs. S. Maw, Son, & Thompson's advertisement of absorbent lint in last week's *C. & D.* some of the prices were incorrectly given. The proper quotations are:—No. 11 lint, 1s. 5d.; No. 1 hospital, 1s. 7d.; No. 2 hospital, 1s. 9d.; superior hospital, 1s. 11d.; and superior surgeons', 1s. 6d. per lb.; and 2d. per lb. less for cwt. quantities, assorted or otherwise.

THE SEN-SEN COMPANY, 9 Farringdon Avenue E.C., are offering to customers with cash orders (*vide* our advertisement pages) special advantages from now until December 15, 1900. Besides supplying extra boxes with specific orders, the company are giving away business-cards, with a free sample of Sen-Sen attached to the cards, and the "Japanese Girl" figure in colours with easel-back can also be had for the asking.

CHEMISTS' LABELS.—The British Label Press, 39 Vicarage Road, Leyton, E., have sent us samples and prices of the chemists' labels they are producing. The firm are making a feature of supplying labels with promptness, and undertake to fill urgent orders in twenty-four hours. The packets of labels are sent out fastened with indiarubber bands, and have underneath a piece of cardboard, both of which improvements a chemist will at once appreciate. The labels we have examined are printed on white and coloured paper, and are distinguished by having the name of the medicament printed in good bold type. The prices at which they are offered are low.

INVALID DELICACIES.—Messrs. Poulton & Noel, of Brewery Road, N., have submitted for our inspection samples of their Belgravian calves'-feet jelly, essence of beef, and home-made beef-tea (double strength), which are as pleasing to the eye as they are enticing to the palate. The jelly and the essence are put up in glass jars with airtight lids, and the beef-tea is sent out in tins, each being attractively labelled and carefully prepared. The essence of beef is a particularly agreeable preparation, its translucent appearance making it all the more tempting. In warm weather it is liquid, but when cooled on ice or by climatic changes it becomes a jelly, in which form most people would, we imagine, prefer to take it.

PEARS' "ANNUAL."—Year by year the "Annual" which Messrs. A. & F. Pears (Limited) publish, gets better and better. That for Christmas 1900 contains a story by Max Pemberton, splendidly illustrated by Mr. Frank Dadd, R.I. By itself this story is well worth the shilling at which the "Annual" is published, but there are given with it three magnificent pictures. One is a reproduction of Mr. J. B. Burgess's "Beware," which is in the possession of Mr. Thomas J. Barratt, chairman and director of the Company. This is a portrait of a charming Spanish beauty. Then there is one that should delight lovers of English scenery; it is Mr. Yeend King's "Making Friends," which Mr. Andrew Pears has the good fortune to own. It represents a pleasant English dale, with a couple of country girls at the side of a brook, and some ducks. Mr. King's style is faithfully rendered, especially in regard to atmosphere. "The British Lion," by Vestagh Gezah (another of Mr. Barratt's pictures), is the third, and this also is a faithful reproduction of the king of the forest and his consort, the former calm and alert while his mate sleeps. This plate will, we are sure, please children. We understand that 450,000 copies of the "Annual" and of each of the pictures have been printed. This is an unprecedented feat in colour-production, for to get such splendid results the printing must be done slowly.

## College Notes.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL.—The London College of Pharmacy team met the Square team in a friendly game on November 10. After an interesting and well-contested game, the London team came out victorious by 4 goals to 2.

On November 17 the London team was opposed by the Hatcham Athletic Football Club, the game ending in a victory for Hatcham by 3 goals to 2.

NORTH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.—The students of this school visited the works of Messrs. Allhusen (United Alkali Company), Felling-on-Tyne, on Wednesday, November 14, and were conducted by Mr. Burrows (manager), Mr. Russell (chief chemist), and Mr. Bayne, who explained in detail the principle of all the various processes seen in operation. One of the most interesting and novel methods inspected was the treatment of "waste" calcium sulphide, which is pumped into a series of tanks, through which a supply of carbon dioxide is forced, thereby expelling the whole of the sulphur in the form of sulphuretted hydrogen. This is mixed with sufficient air to oxidise the hydrogen only, combination being effected in the Claus kiln packed with oxide of iron. The heat evolved is sufficient to vaporise the sulphur, which is condensed to a liquid in chambers and run out into trays to crystallise.



### Tablets of Phar-ma-Ken.

THE STUDENT: A FRAGMENT.

With apologies to "Punch"—in which we join.

1. Then the students set behind them the cares of X-als,
2. . . . Gathered together in the Crown rumh of the Hoh Brun,
3. And with them their tu-tars and other great men.
4. They set upon the throne one Ro-Bin-Zunn,
5. A Lord of the Kown-teh Kown-sil.
6. . . . his scion as cup-bearer.
7. From the smoke-tubes of the students and tu-tars
8. Rose a great cloud . . .
9. The soft tread of waytors, the bringers of whiskey,
10. The servers of claret, the fetchers of bit turs,
11. . . . gathered like the west wind.
12. Singers of songs and ringer of bels
13. Awoke the thunder of hand-claps and stamping feet,
14. While the smoke grew thicker . . .
15. . . . and the bottles grew lighter.
16. Then stood up he who sat on the throne . . . and said
17. Many sweet things about the Fuh-ters and their tro-f,
18. The goblet of silver, given by Waht zun-wil.
19. And when they all cheered, the Char mun
20. . . . had a vision of the land of the Um-pal.
21. He saw the son of Hills, the rider of guns, the hunter of Dewetz,
22. . . . and wearer of khaki.
23. They hearkened to his deeds, and their hearts grew big,
24. . . . they sang . . . Jhol-i-Gud Phel-lah.
25. And high to the clouds lifted their elbows.
26. The goblets were drained . . . the son of Hills spoke.
27. . . . So the evening sped, merrily.
28. When the bottles were drained
29. They stood on the tables . . . and saug
30. To the Wid-i o' Win-zur.

W. H. A. (248/29.)

AMONG the thirty-nine ordinances passed into law in the islands of Trinidad and Tobago during 1899 was one repealing the pre-existing total prohibition of the use of ganja, and substituting provisions for its regulation. This is an interesting admission of the inability of the Government to prevent, without oppression, the satisfaction of a popular demand.



## Scientific Progress.

**The Aloins.**—In a series of papers on the active principles of the various aloes (*Bull. Soc. Chim.*, 1900, 785) Léger shows that the intensity of Klunge's reaction for barbaloin (a cherry-red colour with copper sulphate and sodium chloride) diminishes according to the number of times the aloin has been crystallised. After seven times he found that barbaloin gives no reaction, and he concludes that Klunge's reaction is due to isobarhaloin.

**Linaloe Oil.**—According to Schimmel & Co.'s chemists, or rather, according to their semi-annual report, which has just recently been issued, oil of linaloe contains linalol, terpineol, and geraniol as the three constituents of its alcoholic residue. These were separated by means of the well-known phthalic-acid reaction, and found to be present in the following proportions:—Linalol=90 per cent., terpineol=6.5 per cent., and geraniol=3.5 per cent.

**Quinine Lygosinate.**—This new quinine salt is the outcome of the experiments made on the sodium salt of the acid by Fahinyi, and is prepared by the interaction of sodium lygosinate and quinine hydrochloride. The acid has the constitution of a diorthocoumarone, and the formula of the new salt is  $(C_6H_4)_2C_5H_3O_5(C_{20}H_{25}N_3O_2)_2$ . It is an amorphous orange-coloured powder of aromatic odour and somewhat bitter taste. It is soluble in alcohol, but only to a slight extent in water. It melts at  $114^\circ$ . It possesses a very strong germicidal action.—(*Ph. Post*, 1900, 598.)

**Thiopyrin.**—Michaelis and Bindewald some time ago showed that the action of an alcoholic solution of potash on the chloroacetyl-phenyl-methyl-chlorpyrazol resulted in the formation of antipyrin. They now (*Berichte*, 1900, 2873) show that, by using potassium sulphate a corresponding sulphur derivative results, which he terms thioantipyrin, or, shortly, thiopyrin. This new antipyrin analogue possesses the formula  $C_{10}H_{13}N_2S$ , and forms colourless plates melting at  $160^\circ$  C., soluble in water and alcohol, but almost insoluble in ether. The body is being further investigated.

**Inoculation Experiments with Ergot.**—According to Stäger, the ergot of rye (*Claviceps purpurea*) can be inoculated on various other *Graminaceæ* without undergoing any modification, whilst on other plants this is not the case. Amongst the plants upon which successful inoculations were performed are:—*Secale cereale*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Poa pratensis*, *P. alpina*, *P. sudetica*, *Bromus sterilis*, *Hordeum sativum*, and *Briza media*. Similar experiments were performed with the allied fungi, *Claviceps microcephala* and *C. Wilsoni*.—(*Pharm. Central.*, 1900, 655.)

**Localisation of the Cinchona Alkaloids.**—According to Dr. Charpentier (*Ph. Post*, 1900, 600) microscopic analysis is usually not sufficient of itself to discriminate between wild and cultivated barks. The tannin vessels, which are much more numerous in the leaves than in any other organ, contain practically no alkaloid. The highest percentage of alkaloid is found in the root, the best tissue being poorest in this respect. Traces only were detected in the phloem parenchyma. He states that the leaves contain sufficient alkaloid to justify their being employed as a tonic and febrifuge.

**A Proteolytic Enzyme in Malt Extract.**—According to Fernbach and Huhert it is probable that extract of malt contains a proteolytic enzyme. They base their assumption on the following facts. When the extract is digested with water at  $70^\circ$  C., the albumin, which is in the usual way coagulable, is rendered non-coagulable. The result is identical when the solution is sterilised by filtration through a Chamberland filter, so that the change cannot be due to micro-organisms. Further, the cold extract dissolves gelatin, whilst the heated liquid does not do so. From a series of nitrogen determinations it appears that the nature of the soluble bodies produced by the enzyme depends on the temperature and length of the digestion.

**Laudanosine.**—An interesting paper on the chemistry of this opium alkaloid appears in a recent issue of the *Berichte* (xxxiii. 2346) by Pictet and Athanasescu, in which they show that the original formula assigned to the base by its discoverer—Hesse—is correct. This empirical formula is  $C_{21}H_{27}NO_4$ , and they now show that the body is a methy-tetrahydro-papaverine derivative. By the reduction of papaverine chloromethylate by means of tin and hydrochloric acid, the authors have obtained a body which shows the greatest resemblance to the natural alkaloid laudanosine. The only essential difference observed is that the reduction product is optically inactive, whereas the natural base is dextro-rotatory. It is therefore probable that laudanosine is *d*-N-methy-tetrahydro-papaverine. This has been almost definitely confirmed by the fact that the artificially prepared body can be split up into its optically active isomers, which closely resemble the natural base in all their properties, including their angle of rotation.

## The Pharmaceutical Aviary.



### Larus Pharmaceuticus.

(*E.M.H., Trans. Phar. Soc. vol. omnia.*)

A bird familiar on the sea-shores of the British Isles where it may be found in the holiday season hopping amongst the seaweeds, of which it is so fond that it has gathered all kinds of them in its nest. It is commonly known as the curator bird, because the other birds in the aviary bring to it all the curious things they find, and it spots them with its beak; also on account of its delight in showing the young birds how to swim across *Pluvius minoris*. Holmes in a garden at Sevenoaks, and feeds on materia medica.

## At the Counter.

POOR GRANDMA.—Assistant (selling dumb teat): "I think madam, you will like the indiarubber shield much better



than the bone one, indiarubber not being as liable to hurt your gums as bone is." (Query: Whom did the chemist think the teat was for—grandma or grandchild?)



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

MR. ATKINS would be known as the "Silver-tongued," or the "Sayer of Soft Things," or by some similar poetic title, if he had had the fortune to be a North American Indian or a member of a Central African tribe. His address to the Nottingham chemists was a study in the art of word-juggling, if I may use the term without any sinister meaning. His audience, he told them at first, but with infinite circumlocution, were great and good men simply because they lived in Nottingham with its castle on a precipitous rock, its church in chaste Perpendicular style, and other associations, for which, as far as I can see, they have no more claim to credit than I have. From this exordium the orator glided on "to survey, though most briefly, the field of pharmaceutical politics." The curriculum first looms into view. Ah, but some weak brother might be offended with the term. Therefore, says Mr. Atkins the Amiable, "I will not use it, but the equivalent I deliberately adopt." What a sublime faith in mere verbalism this expression indicates! Castor oil is nasty; but call it by some seductive name, and then see how the multitude will rush to get a drink of it.

\* \* \* \*

THIS DELICACY in regard to language is an always attractive characteristic of Mr. Atkins's speeches, but it is a little risky all the same. What, for example, ought we to understand by his reference to "a cleavage in the Council" about the new Bill? How would the ordinary man describe the blazing tumult which may be assumed to have occurred, if the event has been translated into Atkinsese as "a cleavage in the Council"? And, again, what can be the nature of that "weekly deluge" of "cynical, carping criticism" of pharmaceutical things and people which, according to the Treasurer of the Pharmaceutical Society, is neither fair nor well-informed? I think Mr. Atkins should, in ordinary fairness, reconsider this charge, and either justify or withdraw it. I can discover no trace of this weekly deluge of unfair, ill-informed, carping criticism which he finds in the pharmaceutical press, and he ought at least to quote fifty-two instances of it culled from the publications of the last twelve months. Even if he could do this, the expression "a weekly deluge" would approach the hyperbolic.

\* \* \* \*

CRITICISM and the prospect of it seem to be worrying our magnates just now. Mr. Atkins has no objection to it so long as it is fair and well-informed—that is, I presume, so long as it is on his side. Mr. Rymer Young approves of it, "but there is a limit to it"—no doubt unfavourable criticism of Mr. Rymer Young would be outside that limit, and Mr. Woolley makes the extraordinary suggestion that when the Council's Pharmacy Bill appears—he seems to have faith that it will appear some day—"there shall not be so much writing [about it] in the trade journals. Rather should members express their views to the secretaries of their respective associations, to be in turn submitted by them to the Secretary of the Council, to be there sifted and dealt with and considered." This is probably the way criticism had to be conducted in Egypt (where the mummies come from), simply because there were no organs of opinion published there. But does Mr. Woolley seriously think such an archaic method of commenting on a project of legislation would be better than the modern one?

\* \* \* \*

THE STRONGEST OBJECTION to the modern system of criticism seems to me to lie, not in the occasional extravagance of the censure passed upon a proposal or a work,

which, after all, merely overleaps itself, but in the unfortunate circumstance that opposition gets an unfair advantage. To a large extent the satisfied people say nothing, so that those who have complaints to make pretty well run the show. And then the temptation to attack is so much stronger than is the disposition to approve. It is most natural, and to an extent most proper, that when the Pharmacy Bill appears hundreds of eyes should search it with a perhaps unconscious, but none the less eager, desire to find faults in it. There is so much more glory in discovering errors than there can be in mere acquiescence. See how this tendency has been exemplified in regard to the Pharmacopœia. A hundred very sharp and experienced gentlemen pounced upon it the day it was published, and every one studied it with the express purpose of finding faults in it. The one who discovered the most errors scored the highest honours. This premium on censoriousness is what leads to such remarks as the one attributed to an expert of such a generally well-balanced mind as I thought Mr. Otto Hehner had, that "the present Pharmacopœia was not fitted to be a standard—not fit, for that matter, to be anything at all" (*C. & D.*, November 10, 1900, page 735). Criticism of that kind, I repeat, injures the critic far more than it does the object criticised.

\* \* \* \*

THE MAGISTRATES OF BALLYBAY are entitled to what immortality this page can give them. They were reported to the Irish Pharmaceutical Council to have imposed penalties of 5s., 1s., and 2s. on a firm who had sold arsenic and strychnine without making the requisite book-entries, and had also sold arsenic to a person not of full age; and they had with indiscreet frankness given their reason for making the fines so small. It was that they believed the defendants had acted through inadvertence. Surely they must be aware that the inadvertent distribution of such things as arsenic and strychnine is the very thing which the Acts relating to their sale were framed to punish.

\* \* \* \*

"AN ACT OF REBELLION" is the epithet applied by the Editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* to the perfectly legitimate opposition which has been organised in Scotland against the new by-laws now under the consideration of the Privy Council. Calling names is a senseless form of controversy, but it comforts the person who adopts it. A much more serious assertion in the same article is that in August last a copy of the Scotch petition against the by-laws, covered by an explanatory letter couched in respectful terms, was sent "to the President and Council" by Mr. C. A. Macpherson, of Edinburgh. The petition, it was explained, was signed by 619 persons of whom 164 were members of the Society, and the copy of it was sent "as an act of courtesy." We now read that "the Editor is authorised by the President of the Society to state that he did not consider that communication to be an act of courtesy, but rather the opposite. Nor did he think that the time of the Council should be taken up by consideration of the matter of the petition . . . especially since the petition had been already sent to the Privy Council." We, William, King of Prussia and German Emperor, could hardly assume a more autocratic claim to select and limit the topics which, in his august opinion, his humble subjects might consider and discuss.

\* \* \* \*

DRAFTING PHARMACY BILLS is an interesting and useful occupation. The great advantage of it is that it compels the draftsmen to present their demands in precise and explicit language. When they come to attempt this they are likely to modify any extreme and unreasonable views they may have held. Mr. Broadhead's Bill submitted to the Dewsbury Chemists' Association is astonishingly moderate and reasonable. I see nothing in it to contend against. Nor do I see enough in it to induce me to take off my coat to work for it. The chemist and druggist may be a dangerous animal, and ought perhaps to be chained up a little tighter than he is at present; but he can hardly be expected to be eager to forge the chains for himself. I think I would rather say to the Lord Chancellor, "Leave it to you, my Lord."



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## Editorial Comments.

### Muddle and Rebellion.

THE pages of our venerable contemporary in Bloomsbury had a striking resemblance to a bleaching-green last week, and all on account of that Scotch revolt. Mr. Anderson Russell, a Glasgow pharmacist and loyal member of the Pharmaceutical Society, has been concerned about the journal of the Society not publishing the Scotch petition to the Privy Council, which was printed in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* of August 25—"exclusively," as Fleet Street men say. How that happened is not in the argument, and is so frequent an occurrence in regard to matters pertaining to our business that it would not be mentioned at all if it did not appear to be at the root of the trouble between Mr. Anderson Russell and our contemporary. Mr. Russell complained on November 3 that the petition had not been printed in the *Pharmaceutical*



*Journal*, whereupon the Editor remarked "that the promoters of the petition have not had the courtesy to send a verified copy of the petition either to the Council of the Society or to the Editor of the journal." Mr. Russell replied that this statement was contrary to his information, and the Editor responded by repeating the statement about non-receipt of a verified copy by him, and that "the further statement to the effect that no copy had been sent to the Council of the Society was based on information officially supplied at the time the note was written." Last week everything was made perfectly clear. On August 22 Mr. C. A. Macpherson, of Edinburgh, sent a copy of the petition to the President of the Society, along with the following letter, duly signed:—

The President and Council of the Pharmaceutical Society  
of Great Britain.

Gentlemen,—It having been considered that it would only be an act of courtesy to let you have a copy of the petition which has been forwarded from Scotland to the Privy Council with reference to By-law 23, Section X., of the proposed new by-laws of the Society, I have been requested on behalf of those who signed it to send you the enclosed copy. In doing so, I have been asked to say that the petition must not be regarded as an act of hostility to the Pharmaceutical Council, but that it is solely directed against what is practically a new penalty proposed to be inflicted on candidates who, through illness or other unavoidable cause, are unable to attend so as to undergo the examination for which they have entered. If it had not been for the limited time available and the holiday season, the aforesaid by-law would have been opposed at the special meeting. The signatories, therefore, feel that in the circumstances no other course is open to them, and they wish it to be distinctly understood that they have no other object in view than to secure the retention of the reasonable provision for cases of illness which has been so long in operation. The signatures to the petition number 619, and are those of 164 members of the Society, 150 registered chemists, and 305 student-associates or pharmaceutical students; the most of them were got in three days and all of them in a week from the time this particular action was resolved upon, and a much larger number would have been obtained if it had not been the holiday season. As there is reason to believe that the same feeling against the by-law exists in England as in Scotland, the petitioners trust that the Council will take an early opportunity of making the desired addition to the by-law.

I am, &c.

This and other letters, with more or less sympathetic remarks thereon, were published by our contemporary last week, and they serve to demonstrate that Mr. Anderson Russell and the Editor were playing at cross-purposes, each in good faith supposing that the other knew all about it. But there is a serious side to the matter. The official editorial comments include the following:—

In regard to the letter addressed to "the President and Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," by Mr. C. A. Macpherson, on August 22 last, with a copy of the petition which had been forwarded from Scotland to the Privy Council, the Editor is authorised by the President of the Society to state that he did not consider that communication to be "an act of courtesy," but rather the opposite. Nor did he think that the time of the Council should be taken up at the meeting in October by consideration of the matter of the petition or of Mr. Macpherson's letter, more especially since the petition had already been sent to the Privy Council.

So far as the Editor was, or is, aware of the matter of the petition, he should not have considered its publication in the Society's journal sufficiently appropriate or desirable to justify him in asking for a copy of it; indeed, if the petition had been sent to him he would probably have declined to publish it without the approval of the President, as it now appears to represent nothing less than an act of rebellion against the constitutional action of the Council and of the Society.

It thus appears that a communication addressed to the President and Council of the Society has been intercepted by the President. This is such a rare proceeding in ordinary business matters that it is difficult to realise the object in the present case. The President of the Society is not given any autocratic power in regard to the Society's affairs, and although it is right that he should have some discretion in

trivial matters, this communication concerned the approval of by-laws which had taken up much of the Council's time, and a general meeting of the members of the Society. Even if it had not been addressed to the Council it was still sufficiently important to lay before the members. We venture to say that Mr. Carteighe, who holds the presidential record for length of service and strength in governing the affairs of the Society, never took upon himself so arbitrary a power as withholding communications addressed to his colleagues. That is weak diplomacy as well as bad business. The Scotch trouble is a series of pin-pricks, and one of the grievances is that communications sent to the Council are not submitted to or considered by the Council. Here is a flagrant example of the kind. There have been ample opportunities for allaying the pin-prick irritation, but, instead, some ingenuity has been exercised to keep it up. This may be good for the souls of rebels, but it is not calculated to demonstrate the sympathy of the Pharmaceutical Society with the wants of chemists and druggists. Year by year we have been told that the way to get pharmaceutical reforms is to strengthen the Society, then mould its policy. That is the theory. Put into practice it becomes "an act of rebellion."

## Sicilian Produce.

A REPORT dealing with the trade and commerce of Sicily for 1899, chiefly compiled by Mr. Acting-Consul de Garston, has been issued by the Foreign Office (No. 2,529, 3½d.). The information is interesting as far as it goes, although a little stale, especially as the F.O. has taken over two months to sub-edit it. The references to the drug and chemical trades are mostly in the nature of figures, and even these cannot be taken as accurate, as it is stated that considerable quantities of goods are imported into Sicily *via* some other port on the continent of Italy which do not figure in the returns of the Sicilian custom-house. Essential oils are the most important item with which we are concerned, and we notice the old practice of lumping the exports together is still adhered to. From Palermo there was a considerable increase in the exports, the figures for lemon, orange, and bergamot oils being 72,260 kilos. to all countries, and 52,120 kilos. to Great Britain, against 51,759 and 33,180 kilos. respectively the year before. Messina also exported increased quantities of "essential oils"—viz., 333,312 kilos., of which this country purchased 119,059 kilos. These figures do not include, of course, the exports of bergamot from Calabria. There is no mention whatever of the state of the essential-oil industry in Sicily, but everybody knows that the competition is so excessive, both at home and abroad, that it is only the few who find it profitable. It is notorious also that agencies for some of the smaller Messina houses are frequently hawked about on the London market. In this connection we note that the German Consul at Messina, in a communication to Messrs. Schimmel & Co., states that recently a number of small firms have secured a considerable share of the business by means of abnormally low quotations. These people take no risk; if the result of the transactions is in their favour, they supply the oil; if prices advance, they only supply such quantities as their own interests dictate, and if the loss should be too large the oil is not delivered at all. The purchaser can do nothing but deplore his own credulity, for in most cases these shady exporters are totally irresponsible persons. It is said to be due to this state of affairs that the prices of essential oils have in recent years fluctuated so greatly during the course of one single season. Regarding the market position of lemon oil, it is stated that the production has for three years



been shrinking, and stocks have become so reduced that about three months before the new manufacturing season comes on there is little left; thus at the beginning of September about 15,000 kilos. only was left. This shortage, together with the demand from foreign countries, has been the cause of the considerable advances during the past four months, and it is expected that still higher quotations will rule, especially as the crop of new lemons is about 20 per cent. smaller than that of last year. So far the German Consul. Turning again to Mr. de Garston, we find that he reports a decline in the exports of concentrated lemon-juice so far as Great Britain was concerned, the quantity being 60,550 kilos. in 1899, against 116,470 kilos. in 1898; the total exports, however, from Palermo were greater by 15,150 kilos. during 1899. It would appear that the combination for the buying and selling of lemon-juice and citrate of lime, known as the Società Agrumaria di Acireali, has made comparatively little progress during the two years it has been at work. It has obtained subscriptions amounting to 600,000 lire, but 1,000,000 lire is wanted. The object of the syndicate is to keep the products in strong hands and prevent the small producers (who have not sufficient capital to hold stock) from offering their product at unremunerative prices. The syndicate proposes to pay the producers 400 lire for every pipe of lemon-juice of 130 gals., and 400 lire for every cask of citrate of lime weighing 305 kilos., whenever the market does not allow the producers to obtain these prices. The syndicate does not wish to speculate with the producers' merchandise, and fixes the resale of the goods in advance at a price leaving a maximum margin of 20 per cent. to pay interest on capital and administrative expenses. The exports of citrate of lime from Messina last year amounted to 1,060,459 kilos., of which 459,700 kilos. was shipped to the United Kingdom, and the exports of concentrated lemon-juice were 2,147,719 kilos., of which this country purchased 930,700 kilos. Of citric acid 111,070 kilos. was exported, of which 57,912 kilos. came to the United Kingdom. Tartaric acid to the amount of 19,040 kilos. was sent to this country. The total exports of sulphur from all Sicily during 1899 were 490,325 tons, of which 134,288 tons went to the United States. The Vice-Consul at Licata, which is an important centre of the sulphur-industry, gives some interesting information regarding sulphur-blending as practised by the shippers. The blending, or "la miscela" as it is termed, is done twice—first when the material is being warehoused or piled up on the sandy beach, and when it is shipped. The latter manipulation is so skilfully carried out as to defy any person on the look-out, there being an understanding between the warehouseman delivering the cargo and the merchant's foreman on board. Owing to the sulphur being delivered either from different warehouses or outside piles, the blending is carried out by means of the lighters, and, when nearing the ship under loading, men cry out the locality from which they have taken the cargo, and the foreman then points out the gangway where the sulphur is to be tipped. This work is so well done that one lighter after another from different warehouses, and consequently carrying different qualities, intermingles its cargo with the others in the hold. Evidently the blending is a necessary operation to the sulphur-business.

### Picric-acid Storage.

JUDGING from several inquiries we have lately received in regard to the right of chemists and druggists to keep and sell picric acid, it will not be out of place if we give a résumé of the official regulations which cover this substance.

According to the Explosives Act, 1875, an explosive is defined to mean

Gunpowder, nitro glycerin, dynamite, guncotton, blasting-powders, fulminate of mercury or of other metals, coloured fires, and every other substance, whether similar to those above mentioned or not, used or manufactured with a view to produce a practical effect by explosion, or a pyrotechnic effect, and to include amongst other things every adaptation or preparation of an explosive as above defined.

This definition, it will be seen, only makes picric acid an explosive when it is manufactured for that purpose; if made for use in medicine or dyeing, it was not by the Act considered an "explosive." But in 1887 an Order in Council (No. 14) was made to bring picric acid, picrates, and mixtures of picric acid with certain substances under the Act subject to certain exceptions. The two exemptions are important to chemists and druggists. The first allows the storing and sale of picric acid in any quantity if in solution. The solvent does not matter; it may be, for instance, water or alcohol, and such a solution may be stored in tubs, bottles or buckets, according to fancy. The second exemption sets forth that picric acid is not a legal explosive if it is "manufactured or stored in a factory, building, or place exclusively appropriated to the manufacture or storage of picric acid," and in such a manner as to prevent the picric acid from coming in contact with any basic metallic oxide, oxidising agent, or substance capable of forming an explosive mixture or detonators, or from coming in contact with any fire or light capable of igniting it. The wording of the Order having given rise to doubt as to whether dry picric acid can be kept by chemists and druggists at all, we have a certificate from the Explosives Department of the Home Office that all a chemist has to do to take advantage of this exemption is to keep his picric acid by itself in a drawer or bottle devoted solely to the storage of picric acid, whereby the drawer or bottle becomes "a place exclusively appropriated" to the storage, and is one of the best ways of keeping the acid from getting in contact with the other substances defined above. A cool, dark place is also required. The poison-cupboard thus forms an ideal place for storing a bottle of picric acid. It should be noted that it is illegal to store picric acid in any other way than laid down in the exemption, the Order in Council really being a storage-regulation, because there are already powers in the Explosives Act to compel the storage of the acid in this manner when it comes under the definition of "explosive." It should be noted, however, that "picrates" are made explosives by this Order in Council, and are not subject to the same exemption as the acid itself; but the policy of the Home Office is not to interfere with chemists who keep, for instance, picrate of ammonium for medicinal use. This is the same policy as is pursued in the case of nitro-glycerin. As the Inspector of Explosives pointed out to us, there is no intention of reducing the Act to an absurdity, which would be the effect if picrate of ammonium or other medicinal picrates kept in small quantities in chemists' shops were strained at, whilst such things as chlorate of potassium and erythrol nitrate were overlooked. Picrates and mixtures of picric acid with basic metallic oxides are not "explosives" if kept in solution. Of course, it should be clearly understood that if any chemist and druggist deals in picric acid or picrates, knowing them to be intended for explosive purposes, he becomes amenable to the Explosives Act, and would require to have his premises registered.

### MEDICINES BY POST.

The *Times* prints an interesting correspondence which Mr. Alfred Parkin, Hull, has had with the General Post Office regarding a bottle of medicine which was broken during



transit by post, and for which he asked 5s. as compensation. The G.P.O. replied by circular that no claim could be entertained, whereupon Mr. Parkin proved to them that the damage had actually been traced to one of two individuals in the Post Office. The G.P.O. then admitted that the bottle had been accidentally broken in the Hull sorting-office, but explained that although compensation is paid in respect of the total loss of a parcel containing liquid or the abstraction of its contents, responsibility is not accepted when the loss of such contents is in consequence of damage to the parcel. Mr. Parkin promptly claimed for loss of the contents of the parcel. This was beyond the G.P.O., and in six days Mr. Parkin received a final letter from the Post Office stating that, "in all the circumstances," the Postmaster-General had decided, "as an act of grace," to make an exception to the rule in Mr. Parkin's favour, and to pay the actual value of the contents of the bottle. We dare say such acts of grace will be extended to other senders of medicine, and we note the matter for their benefit.

#### LICENCES FOR ENTIRE DRUGS.

We mentioned in a reply to a correspondent last week that it is necessary under certain conditions to hold a patent-medicine licence for the sale of entire or pure drugs which are recommended as specifics and for which any proprietary rights are claimed. We have been in communication with the Board of Inland Revenue with regard to the matter, our object being especially to ascertain the exact terms of the General Order dealing with the subject issued in April of last year. The Board informs us that from that time "any person detected selling medicine which, on account of a claim to proprietary right or of recommendation for prevention or cure of any malady, would be liable to duty if it were not a pure drug, must at once either take out a patent-medicine licence or discontinue the sale of the medicine, failing which, if he continues to sell, he will be subject to penalties."

#### CHEAP PATENTS.

The conviction of a wholesale druggist's packer and a wholesale hosier's porter for selling and receiving proprietary articles brings once more to notice a widespread evil in the drug-trade. We have lately received information about a number of cases exactly similar to that disposed of at the Guildhall on Tuesday—that is, mutual exchange between employes of goods taken from the business premises where they are engaged. A druggist's assistant may supply a tobacconist's assistant with perfume in exchange for cigars, and so on. There are also cases in which goods are stolen in large quantities for sale to retailers. It is a matter of the greatest difficulty to bring home these charges because of the extremely slender opportunities which dishonest operators give for detecting the passage of the goods from the thief's hands to the receiver's, and without that proof it is considered inadvisable to make any charges, as it is of the greatest advantage to the community to get both parties arrested. It is highly desirable that wholesale houses should keep a sharp look-out upon their stocks, and that periodical returns should be made by stockkeepers of the goods that they are responsible for. Retailers may give assistance by making inquiry when cheap patents are offered to them by casual callers. Such men usually say that they have bought the goods at an auction. That may be true now and then, but certainly the comparatively small number of failures in the drug-trade should of itself suggest suspicion.

#### MALARIA.

Professor Koch addressed the German Colonial Society on Friday of last week regarding his researches on malaria. He has visited Italy, Java, and New Guinea, and as a result practically confirms the views of Dr. Patrick Manson, although he did not say so last week. He makes a point of

the fact that the human body is the home of the malaria-parasite, and not the mosquito's body. He finds that children are specially liable to the disease, and in his investigations paid particular attention to new-born infants. He has little faith in curtains; that is, he does not approve of the experiments made by Drs. Sambon and Low on the Campagna: quinine is his remedy. He found that all attempts to secure immunity from the disease by means of inoculation had hitherto failed. It thus appears that Professor Koch has made little out of this department of investigation, for the simple reason, we think, that Dr. Manson, Major Ross, and the Italian observers have left him nothing to discover. In this connection we note that Dr. J. W. Hayward, a homœopathist, lectured to the African Section of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on Monday on the same subject. He claimed that recent discoveries are a confirmation of what had been taught by Hahnemann at the end of the eighteenth century [protection is better than cure], and did not agree that quinine is a good prophylactic: it should only be taken when the fever comes on.

#### RÖNTGEN-RAY FATALITY.

A Hastings jury have returned a verdict that a lady on whom an inquest was being held met her death "from shock and exhaustion following an accident and the effects of the x-rays on a weakened system." This, as far as we know, is the first case in this country in which x-rays have had attributed to them a share in causing a patient's death, although such cases have been reported from the Continent. In the case in question prolonged exposure to the influence of the Röntgen rays seems to have severely burned the skin and tissues. The injuries following the use of the x-rays are attributed to the ultra-violet rays given off from the focus-tube rather than to the x-rays themselves. The violet rays are especially potent in their influence on living tissues, and are now pretty well recognised. Dr. C. Mansell Moullin, at a meeting of the Röntgen Society, described the "burns" as of the nature of frost-bites, and very difficult to heal. Radiographers should be careful in cases where prolonged exposures are made to use a protecting-screen to cut off the violet rays.

#### IMITATION *v.* INJURY.

The Court of Appeal gave rather an important judgment on Monday in the case of the London General Omnibus Company *v.* Lavell. The defendant ran an omnibus from Hammersmith to the City and back which strongly resembled the company's 'buses in appearance. Mr. Justice Farwell, after inspecting the rival 'buses, granted the company an injunction restraining the defendant from running the 'bus. Lavell appealed on the ground that no evidence had been called to justify the decision. Lord Alverstone, in granting the appeal, remarked that the Court was asked to say that Judge Farwell was right in coming to the conclusion that, because he thought the two omnibuses so resembled one another as to be likely to be mistaken, that was sufficient evidence to support an action for deceit. He had never heard it said that a judge was entitled to place his impression, derived from a view, in the place of evidence. A view was for the purpose of enabling the tribunal, whether a judge or jury, to understand the position, appearance, and so forth of the matter in dispute. This decision, in which Lords Justice Rigby and Vaughan Williams concurred, has an important bearing in trade-mark cases arising in the business which we represent. Some people have the notion that if they prove imitation they can obtain an injunction, whereas damage is an essential ground of action.

COLOURED GLOBES in the windows of chemists' shops were first displayed by the Moorish druggists of Arabia and Spain.



## Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

THE Council met at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel on Tuesday, November 20, Mr. A. Cooper in the chair. There were also present Messrs. Charles Sanger, A. Tebbutt, Theo. Nicholls, W. Jones, W. R. Barnes, C. J. G. Bunker, P. F. Rowsell, A. Hayman, S. Roberts, B. Hirst, and P. C. Edgar.

The executive committee reported that since the last meeting fifty-one retailers had joined the Association and seven the Manufacturers' Section. Mr. Glyn-Jones, the Secretary, had attended meetings at Edinburgh and Barnsley. Mr. Johnston had canvassed North London, Faversham, Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay, Margate, Deal, Dover, Folkestone, Ashford, Hastings, Eastbourne, Brighton, and Worthing. The executive appealed to the members to pay subscription promptly, as the expense of collecting outstanding subscriptions was considerable, and stated that they were encouraging voluntary arrangements wherever possible amongst chemists in various localities with a view to arranging prices of proprietary articles not upon the Association's list, and had invited correspondence from members of the Association in districts where it was thought such plans might be carried out.

The Chairman drew attention to the last statement. It was one of the most encouraging signs of the good the Association had done that there was a growing feeling in various districts whereby unanimity could be secured as to the maintenance of the prices of certain articles which were not upon the protected list. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Sanger said that it was very proper work for the P.A.T.A. to encourage, and it was the duty of the Council to initiate and support any efforts to secure better profits for the retail trade in whatever way such profits might be secured. Mr. Tebbutt seconded, and said that he hoped that the chemists in the various towns where this work was being carried on would show their appreciation by becoming members of the P.A.T.A.

### SOAP-CLUBS.

Mr. Bunker called attention to the formation of "soap-clubs." He stated that a girl had purchased at his shop a box of Erasmic soap, for which she was charged the minimum selling-price fixed by the Erasmic Company. She asked for a receipt. She came again on the following Saturday and asked for another box, and she particularly wished for a receipt to be given upon the same paper which had been handed to her a week earlier. On being asked why she desired this, she explained that a soap-club had been formed at the works at which she was employed, and that when she had purchased a dozen boxes she would receive an extra box for nothing. Mr. Bunker's assistant explained to her that he knew nothing of this arrangement, and asked from whom she was to get the extra box. She replied, "Oh, from you." She further explained that she knew this was being done at a chemist's shop, which turned out to be a branch of Day's Southern Drug Company. Mr. Bunker said that he had written to the Erasmic Company, who replied:—

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your postcard just to hand we enclose you one of our price-lists, which will give you all the information you require.

With regard to the formation of soap-clubs, this is a matter with which we personally have nothing whatever to do, but we believe that such things are arranged by chemists with their customers.

He thought this was most unsatisfactory. He thought the club system was only a way of cutting, and he hoped that the Council would express their opinion on it.

On the motion of the Chairman a resolution was passed regretting that this practice was being carried on with the cognisance of the proprietors, and expressed a hope that no member of the Association would lend himself to this new form of cutting.

## Practical Notes and Formulæ.

### ANTISEPTIC TOOTH-POWDER.

Salol ... ..	1 dr.
Phosphate of lime ... ..	5 dr.
Carbonate of lime ... ..	5 dr.
Light magnesia ... ..	5 dr.
Bicarbonate of sodium ... ..	4 dr.
Essence of peppermint to perfume.	

Mix well.

### A PARALDEHYDE MIXTURE.

Paraldehyde ... ..	30 gr.
Syrup of raspberry ... ..	6 dr.
Peppermint water ... ..	6 dr.
Distilled water ... ..	1 oz.

This may be taken in twenty-four hours in one or two doses.

### LAXATIVE ELECTUARY FOR CHILDREN.

THE following electuary is useful for constipation in children:—

Manna ... ..	1 oz.
Calcined magnesia ... ..	2 oz.
Washed flowers of sulphur ... ..	2 oz.
White honey ... ..	1 oz.

From a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful mixed with a cup of hot milk and given once or twice a day for habitual constipation. A larger dose usually exercises a distinctly purgative effect.

### A VARNISH-PAINT

which withstands heat and cold, and does not crack:—

Asphaltum ... ..	10 parts
Crude henzol ... ..	30 parts
Crude petroleum ... ..	15 parts
Benzine ... ..	60 parts

It dries quickly, the quickness being increased by a larger proportion of the most volatile constituent benzene. With kresze and other powder added, it may be used for decorative purposes.

### METOL-QUINONE DEVELOPER (DOUBLE STRENGTH).

Metol ... ..	52 gr.
Hydroquinone ... ..	225 gr.
Water ... ..	12 oz.

Dissolve.

Soda-sulphite crystals ... ..	3½ oz. (Troy)
Soda carbonate (dried) ... ..	6 oz. "
Water ... ..	24 oz.

Dissolve, then mix the two solutions, make up to 42 oz., and filter.

Put in 2-oz. blue bottles. When using, dilute with equal quantity of distilled water, and add a few drops of a 10-per-cent. solution of potassium bromide.

### American Drug-stores for London.

JULIAN RALPH, the well-known American newspaper correspondent, is enthusiastic over the opportunities for trade that exist in the English capital, especially for Americans who have new and modern ideas of catering to the wants and needs of the public, so says the *American Druggist*. In a recent letter to the *Brooklyn Eagle*, Mr. Ralph writes:—"There is a demand here for twenty drug-stores of the Perry and the Hudson type, for the Londoners will eagerly take up the suicidal habit of dosing themselves with tonics and nerve cures, if they have the chance. Inferior, poky, and gloomy places, which do not give the men a half big enough list of harmful drugs, are doing a fine trade here to-day, especially in the city. But come over with your capital and your ideas, and you will see a dozen openings where I have told of one. Do not establish your business by means of English agents, whose ways are as the ways of the barnacles on a whale's back, nor with the help of English assistants, whose methods are such as might easily have been dug up out of the earth that incrusts the buried cities of Assyria. Bring bright, quick Americans with you, and keep them here at least until the native helper has been trained in their ways—for the native helper is trainable, as I have proved and seen proved, again and again. Do not hesitate and lose a chance to get rich in the belief that it is new things that are needed here. On the contrary, it is the old things that will make the most money—the old things that are already coining fortunes, and that are badly done."



## Oils of Petitgrain and Neroli.

JEANCARD AND SATIE have published an interesting paper on these oils from an analytical point of view (*Bull. Soc. Chim.*, 1900, 605), in which they show that both the weather and the time of harvest have a distinct influence on the yield and quality of oil. The following table gives an interesting summary of their results in this respect:—

*Oil of Neroli.*

Origin	Yield %	Sp. Gr.	Rotation	% Esters	Date of Distillation
*Cannes ...	0.933	0.8716	+4° 16'	14.7	May 14
*Cannet ...	0.980	0.8746	+4° 30'	12.74	May 14
*Antibes ...	0.980	0.8776	+4° 40'	10.78	May 14
†Cannet ...	1.0	0.8701	+4° 32'	15.92	May 16
†Antibes ...	0.960	0.8749	+3° 13'	17.66	May 16
†Antibes ...	0.930	0.8736	+3° 50'	15.43	May 17
†Cannet ...	0.880	0.8753	+3° 56'	15.68	May 17
†Cannet ...	0.930	0.8736	+4° 58'	14.70	May 17
*Cannes ...	0.940	0.8753	+3° 20'	16.17	May 18
*Cannet ...	0.950	0.871	+4° 42'	14.70	May 18
*Antibes ...	1.066	0.8716	+3° 30'	13.47	May 18
*Cannet ...	1.181	0.8739	+5° 5'	14.45	May 19
*Antibes ...	1.150	0.8723	+4° 20'	13.47	May 19
Maximum...	1.181	0.8758	+5° 0'	17.66	
Minimum...	0.930	0.8701	+3° 13'	10.78	
Average ...	0.933	0.8753	+4° 8'	15.19	

\* Weather fine. † East wind. ‡ Rain.  
§ Calculated as linalyl acetate.

*Oil of Petitgrain.*

—	Sp. Gr.	Rotation	Esters
Bigarade... ..	0.8946	−5° 19'	50.40
Bigarade... ..	0.8866	−4° 11'	67.84
Bigarade... ..	0.8907	−2° 49'	47.14
Bigarade... ..	0.8923	−3° 16'	54.16
Lemon... ..	0.8768	+13° 20'	12.25
Mandarine... ..	—	+6° 14'	46.06

These figures are in agreement with the earlier results of Charabot and Pillet, who in 1898 gave the limits for the ester values as 10 to 20 per cent. for neroli, 50 to 70 per cent. for petitgrain.

The yield appears to increase towards the end of May, so long as the weather remains fine. In the case of the rose the reverse is the case, the yield being good only when the day is cool or the weather cloudy. The ester content seems to be independent of both season and weather. It has been suggested that the difference in odour of the orange-flower and neroli oil depends on a certain amount of saponification which takes place during distillation. In order to test this point the authors prepared an alcoholic extract of the flowers, and from this recovered the oil at a low temperature so as to avoid decomposition. This oil had the following characters:—

Sp. gr. at 20° C. = 0.9220  
Esters per cent. = 23.76.

Although this oil had a very different odour to that of neroli the ester content is not much different. In order to test the question of saponification during distillation, the authors distilled 400 kilos. of flowers with 800 kilos. of water, and obtained 0.410 kilo. of oil, 450 kilos. of distilled water, and 340 kilos. of residual water.

An estimation of the esters in the oil of neroli gave a result equivalent to 16.3 per cent. of linalyl acetate, or 0.170 gr. per kilo. of flowers. The acidity of the distilled water calculated as acetic acid was 0.096 gr. per litre, equivalent to 0.0110 gr. per kilo. of flowers. It is probable

that fermentation, as well as distillation, accounts for this high quantity of free acid, but further experiments cause the authors to consider that the normal quantity of ester in oil of neroli as it exists in the flower is at a minimum over 23 per cent., of which 5 or 6 per cent. is decomposed during distillation.

## Medical Gleanings.

### IODINE IN DIPHTHERIA.

MR. HUGH TAYLOR writes to the *British Medical Journal* to point out the value of tincture of iodine in the treatment of diphtheria. He paints or swabs the back of the patient's throat, uvula, pharynx, and tonsils with the tincture, and directs the inhalation of the vapour of a teaspoonful of tincture of iodine in a quarter of a pint of hot water for five minutes at a time every half hour or so.

### NEW EXPERIENCE WITH ASPIRIN.

ASPIRIN is a Bayer product, being an acetic derivative of salicylic acid, and hitherto has been recommended chiefly for articular rheumatism (see "Art of Dispensing," page 405). Dr. Kropil, of Pressburg, records (*Allg. Wien. Mediz. Zeit.*) his experience with the remedy in a case of typhoid fever, where he gave doses of 1 gramme. The temperature fell 2° C. within twenty-four hours, but the patient collapsed, and there were symptoms of cyanosis. This did not happen again. Dr. Kropil's experience with aspirin in muscular rheumatism and neuralgia is altogether happier, for he finds a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -gramme dose more efficacious as a pain-reliever than 1-gramme doses of phenacetin. Corroborative trials of the remedy have been made by other continental physicians, Dr. A. Dengel, of Berlin, especially commending it highly for neuralgic affections.

### IS CALOMEL AN ANTISEPTIC?

DR. ALFRED EDDOWES, writing to the *Medical Times*, states that when he was working with Dr. Unna in Hamburg, his colleague, Dr. Schwengers, took this question up, and found that calomel, like corrosive sublimate, was deadly to the growth of ringworm and favus fungi in as weak a mixture as 1 in 5,000 in cultivating media (*Monats. f. prakt. Dermatol.* xi. Band. No. 4, 1890). It does not, of course, follow that calomel can be of service in the treatment of trichophyton—especially when affecting hair-follicles. In condylomata I have found the surface swarming with bacilli (so much so that the latter have been carried in numbers on to the surface of sections by the blade of the microtome), so calomel can reach the enemy in such superficially excited growths as warts, but for getting into infected follicles we require other remedies and the mastery of a definite guiding principle.

### HEDONAL: A NEW HYPNOTIC.

THIS is one of the many new therapeutic agents produced by Fredk. Bayer & Co. It is urethane in which one of the ethyl rests is replaced by methylpropylcarbinol, so that its constitution is  $\text{CO}:\text{NH}_2.\text{O}.\text{CH}:\text{CH}_2.\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$ . It occurs as a white crystalline powder which is but slightly soluble in cold water but is easily dissolved by alcohol, has a taste like menthol, and an aromatic odour. It is an excellent hypnotic, especially for those suffering from neurasthenia, hysteria, and nervous affections generally, especially in the paralytic. A  $\frac{1}{2}$ -dr. dose, given in powder, induces sleep in fifteen minutes which lasts for five hours. The following prescription is recommended:—

Hedonal. ... ..	...	...	...	...	5iv.
Olei carui ... ..	...	...	...	...	gtt. iii.
Olei cinnamomi ... ..	...	...	...	...	gtt. iv.
Spt. rectificat. ... ..	...	...	...	...	℥ij.
Syrup. ad ... ..	...	...	...	...	℥v.

M. et S.

Dose: A tablespoonful by measure in as much water at bedtime.

In many cases the dose of alcohol in the draught should by itself produce sleep, and it may therefore be advantageous to prescribe the remedy in powder when the patient is unaccustomed to alcoholic liquors.



## Legal Reports.

### Pharmacy Acts.

#### MORPHIA IN COUGH-MIXTURE.

AT Greenock Sheriff Court on November 19, John Sinclair, grocer, 90 Roxburgh Street, Greenock, admitted selling a cough-mixture called Kerr's horehound, honey, and tamarinds, which contained a quantity of morphia. Mr. P. Morrison, S.S.C., Edinburgh, prosecuting on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society, said that Sinclair, not being licensed as a chemist, could not sell medicines which contained poison. Sheriff Begg said the case was not a very bad one, and imposed a fine of 1*l.*, with 1*l.* 2*s.* costs.

#### THE SALE OF LAUDANUM.

IN the Linlithgow Sheriff Court on November 15, a young lad named Andrew Gardner was charged at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain with having, on November 3, in the shop at 67 High Street, Linlithgow, sold a quantity of opium or other poison to John Rutherford Hill, the said Andrew Gardner not being a duly registered chemist or druggist within the meaning of the Act. He pleaded guilty, and the Sheriff, after commenting on the seriousness of the charge, imposed a fine of 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, including expenses, with the alternative of three days' imprisonment. This is the first occasion on which an alternative term of imprisonment has actually been imposed in such cases.

#### A FAILURE IN IRELAND.

AT the Tullamore (King's co.) Petty Sessions on November 17, the adjourned hearing of the action under the Irish Act against Wm. Delaney, assistant to Messrs. P. & H. Egan (Limited), Tullamore (details of which appeared in the *C. & D.* on November 10), was resumed. Defendant was summoned for selling corrosive sublimate. At the previous hearing the certificate of Professor Tichborne, Dublin, was put in, but the Bench ruled that the professor would have to attend in person to give evidence, and hence the adjournment. There were two summonses, both under Section 30 of the 1875 Act, the first for keeping open shop for retailing, dispensing, or compounding poisons, and the second for selling corrosive sublimate, defendant not being qualified as required by law.

Mr. Lewis Goodbody said he appeared on behalf of the complainant in the case (instructed by the Pharmaceutical Society). On August 28 Acting-Sergeant Lawler went into the shop of Messrs. P. & H. Egan (Limited), and purchased from the defendant a quantity of corrosive sublimate. He sent on the substance to Professor Tichborne, who found it, on analysis, to be corrosive sublimate, and to meet Mr. Hoey's objection to the analyst's certificate not being evidence he (Mr. Goodbody) had now Professor Tichborne in attendance. Messrs. Egan were a respectable firm, and in his lifetime Mr. Patrick Egan was a registered chemist and druggist. He died three years ago, and during all that time the firm were not entitled to sell poisons. It appeared the Registrar of Deaths was entitled, under the Pharmacy Act, to send notice of the death to the Pharmaceutical Society, so that the name might be erased from the register; but through some oversight he did not do so, and the name of Mr. Patrick Egan still remained on the register of druggists.

Mr. Hoey (for the defence) objected to Mr. Goodbody appearing there. If he represented the Pharmaceutical Society he had no *locus standi*.

This point was not pressed, however, and Mr. Goodbody was proceeding with the first summons when Mr. Hoey objected because the proper party was not before the Court.

The Chairman (Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald, R.M.): You say that Delaney is not the person who can be charged with keeping open shop—that it is Egan, the owner?

Mr. Hoey: That is my point.

Mr. Goodbody: The Act says "it shall be unlawful for any person to sell." Delaney is the seller.

Mr. Hoey: It is the person who "keeps open shop" is liable.

The Chairman: The Bench would like to hear the evidence about the poison, at any rate. Although this is not the

Margarine Act, still under that Act it would be the person who owns the shop, not the boy who sells the article, that would be prosecuted.

Mr. Goodbody said that the Pharmaceutical Society had had the advice of Mr. Gordon, Q.C., and of Messrs. Casey & Clay, solicitors, and they directed the acting-sergeant to summon Delaney. He (Mr. Goodbody) believed that both Mr. Egan and Delaney were liable to be prosecuted.

The Chairman: You do not contend that this boy "kept open shop?"

Mr. Goodbody: You can strike out "keep open shop" if you like. I go upon the selling of the poison.

Mr. Hoey: There is no property in the boy. Plaintiff has no claim on him. It is the man who owns an article that sells it.

The Chairman: Let us have Professor Tichborne's evidence.

Professor Charles A. Tichborne then deposed that he received the substance by registered post, and found it on analysis to be corrosive sublimate, an irritant poison. The certificate of analysis was produced.

The Chairman said he was of opinion that the person who owned the shop was the seller and was liable. If Mr. P. Egan were alive there would be no case at all, and it would appear that the Registrar of Deaths had never got Mr. P. Egan's name removed from the register of druggists.

Mr. Hoey: The Registrar never took the slightest trouble to find out whether we were doing right or wrong. We got no notice on the point at all.

The Chairman: The shop does not belong to this boy. Delaney simply gets his wages and sells what he is asked for. I think we must dismiss the case. In my opinion you have summoned the wrong person, and my brother Magistrates agree with me.

Mr. Goodbody: If necessary, I suppose you will state a case?

The Chairman: Oh, certainly.

Mr. Hoey asked for costs against the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. Goodbody said the Pharmaceutical Society were not the complainants; Acting-Sergeant Lawler was the complainant.

Mr. Hoey: I do not think the Society ought to persist in this. We will give any undertaking that is necessary in the matter. If we had got the slightest notice this would not have occurred.

The Chairman: We will not give costs. The Society have had to go to the expense of bringing down Professor Tichborne from Dublin. We will dismiss the summons without prejudice. I suppose the other summons is withdrawn.

Mr. Goodbody said that was so.

#### SIX SUMMONSES.

AT the Ballybay Petty Sessions on Monday, November 19 Mr. James McLean, R.M., presiding, the Pharmaceutical Society, through Mr. R. H. Parke, solicitor, summoned Patrick and Arthur Fee, chemists and druggists, Ballybay, for breaches of the Pharmacy Act, 1875, on June 23 and 27, and July 4. In all six summonses were issued, and the prosecution was taken under Section 30 of the Act, chap. 57. Mr. Murphy, solicitor, defended.

The charges against Patrick Fee for keeping open shop for the compounding of medical prescriptions on June 23, and for selling and dispensing a medical prescription on same date, were first taken up. John Doyle, deposed that on June 23, he called at the shop of Messrs. Fee Brothers, and gave a prescription to have compounded. Mr. Patrick Fee compounded it, and witness paid 1*s.* 6*d.* for the bottle. In cross-examination witness stated that he was a private detective and inspector for the Pharmaceutical Society, residing in Dublin. He acted on the instructions of the Society, and got 10*s.* per day and expenses. He expected to get a portion of the penalty (one-third) from somebody.

John Isaac Bernard, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, deposed that the prescription was for liniment of chloroform. It was in the handwriting of Sir William Stokes. There was no name of the seller on the bottle, it was not labelled "Poison," and was in a plain bottle, so that there might be other prosecutions against Mr. Fee under the Sale of Poisons Act. He saw defendant's establishment that day, and it was labelled "Medical Hall" in white enamelled letters.



To Mr. Murphy: Liniment of chloroform can be bought from wholesale houses, made up. I did not see Sir William Stokes writing the prescription, but I know his handwriting, having twenty years' experience of it.

Messrs. Murphy and Parke having addressed the Bench, the Magistrates retired, and, after a short absence, returned to the court, when the Chairman announced that they had given the case careful consideration, and believed the Pharmaceutical Society, in bringing the cases, were doing their duty to the public. They would convict in both cases. The minimum penalty of 5*l.* was imposed in each case.

Similar charges against the same defendant were next taken up for June 27. The evidence was almost identical with the last case, and similar fines were imposed. The Chairman said that 20*l.* was a large amount in a place like Ballybay, and the Magistrates were of opinion that, after the very firm and strong convictions, the Society should be satisfied, and withdraw the remaining two charges. No satisfactory arrangement, however, could be come to, and the Magistrates adjourned the two remaining cases for twelve weeks, to allow Mr. Murphy to have a case stated for the Superior Courts in the meantime.

### High Court Cases.

#### THE SACCHARIN LITIGATION.

In the Court of Appeal on Tuesday and Wednesday before the Lord Chief Justice and Lords Justices Rigby and Vaughan Williams, the hearing was commenced of the cases of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited) *v.* the Chemical and Drugs Company (Limited) and the Saccharin Corporation *v.* the Anglo-continental Chemical-works (Limited), on appeals by the defendants from judgments of Mr. Justice North and Mr. Justice Buckley, both of whom had decided against the defendants in an action brought against them by the plaintiffs to restrain infringement of a patent relating to the manufacture of saccharin. The defendants had denied infringement and pleaded invalidity of patent by reason of anticipation. The cases, which occupied a considerable time in the courts below, were now argued on behalf of the appellants by Lord Robert Cecil, Q.C., Mr. Wallace, Q.C., Mr. A. J. Walter, and Mr. Laine, and for the respondents by Mr. Moulton, Q.C., Mr. Cripps, Q.C., Mr. Graham, and Mr. Colefax. In the case of the Chemical and Drugs Company infringement was admitted, but the defendants relied upon anticipations sufficient to invalidate the plaintiffs' patent. The Anglo-continental Works Company (Limited) denied infringement, but they also pleaded anticipation, and as both appeals raised practically the same question they were directed to come in together. The patent in question had to do with the conversion of toluene into toluene sulphochloride, the plaintiffs' case being that their patent did away with a lot of waste which resulted from the processes previously adopted. The result of the old method was that only about half of the materials treated became toluene sulphochloride, the other half being left as toluene sulphuric acid. By the patent in dispute the plaintiffs claimed that by keeping the temperature at between zero and 5° C., and by employing a large excess of sulphuric acid over toluene, practically the whole of the toluene became converted into toluene sulphochlorides. The case for the defendants was that this invention, having regard to the state of public knowledge and the time, was not the proper subject-matter for a patent, and they alleged that it had been anticipated by the publication in England in 1879 and 1881 of German chemical reports of papers by Beckurts and Oito, and Claesson and Wallen. Mr. Justice North, in the Court below, had decided that the anticipations relied upon did not contain anything as to the lowering of the temperature, nor was it apparently ascertained that an excess of sulphuric acid would give a greater yield of sulphochlorides. Mr. Justice Buckley came to much the same conclusion, and expressed the opinion that there was nothing in the specifications which taught the world the invention for which Mouet took out his patent in 1894.

Lord Robert Cecil opened the case for the appellants at some length, and was followed by Mr. A. J. Walter. On the question of infringement it was argued that the importation of saccharin from abroad, made on the same lines as the

plaintiffs' patent, could not be considered an infringement. The patent for saccharin had run out, and plaintiffs by these actions were seeking to obtain an extension of their monopoly in this article. It was important to remember that the patent was not one for saccharin, but for a step in the process of the manufacture of saccharin. It was also submitted that there was no subject-matter in the invention, and, further, that the plaintiffs' specification was not sufficiently descriptive.

Mr. Moulton, Q.C., for the respondents, said his learned friends were quite mistaken in thinking that he based his case of infringement on any question, abstract or philosophical, as to whether toluene sulphochloride was or was not present in the article saccharin. His proposition had nothing to do with that. What he did say was, on the authority of decided cases, that the importation of an article, the manufacture of which was an infringement of an English patent, was an infringement of that patent even though made abroad.

The further hearing was adjourned.

In the Court of Appeal on Wednesday, before Lord Justice Rigby and Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, Mr. Moulton, Q.C., applied in the case of the Saccharin Corporation *v.* the Chemical and Drugs Company (Limited), for an order of attachment against the liquidator of the defendant company for non-compliance with an order directing that the names of certain customers should be disclosed to the plaintiffs. Learned counsel stated that the matter came before their Lordships by way of appeal from an order of Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy, who had taken the objection that they could not attach on the order because it did not state by whom the affidavit as to names of customers was to be made. His Lordship said that the order ought to have been that the defendants through their liquidator should make the affidavit. He (Mr. Moulton) should submit that it was for the Court to say who was the person who had disobeyed the order.

Mr. Macnaghten, Q.C., for the defendants, pointed out that the plaintiffs were asking for an order of attachment against the liquidator for not working out certain inquiries under an order which at that present moment was under appeal. Lord Justice Rigby thought it better that the motion should stand over until the final appeal in the action had been disposed of. The motion was thereupon directed to stand over for a week.

### County Court Cases.

#### ADVERTISING AT A DRUG-STORE.

At the Clerkenwell County Court on November 16, before Judge Edge, Q.C., the Maypole Company (Limited) sued Scott's Drug-stores, 68 Queen Street, Morley, near Leeds, for 27*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* for goods sold and delivered. The defendants counterclaimed 40*l.* for advertising, by means of the shop-front and the window, handbills, &c. They contended that the Maypole Company directed that this mode of advertising should be carried out. The Judge suggested an adjournment for the purpose of the parties trying to come to some amicable arrangement, as it did not seem at all sensible for two firms to spoil their business relationship over a dispute of this sort.

Mr. Compston (for defendant) said an adjournment was rather expensive for his client, as he lives at Leeds.

Ultimately, however, the hearing of the case stood adjourned generally, the question of costs to be decided when the case comes up again.

#### A PULVERMACHER BELT.

In the Westminster County Court on November 20, Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C., tried an action brought by Messrs. Pulvermacher (Limited), of 194 Regent Street, W., to recover 4*l.* 4*s.*, the balance of the cost of an electric belt, from Mr. H. Mott, a cycle-maker, of Oxford. In September last plaintiffs supplied defendant with a concentrated electric belt, at 5*l.* 5*s.*, an instalment of 1*l.* 1*s.* being paid. Several months after the belt was returned by post, with a request that a portion of the amount paid should be returned, defendant stating that the belt was for a special purpose.



and it had failed to effect that object. After amusing evidence the Judge, in deciding for the defendant without costs, said the order for this belt was given relying upon a book which stated it had the widest range of curative efficacy in the ailments flesh is heir to. He filled up their form stating he was low-spirited, irritable, and suffered from loss of strength, overwork, and climate. Then they sent him this belt, as being one that was likely to cure him. He said it did not answer. So far from it doing him any good, he said it affected him to a considerable extent. He thought the legal position was that there was a warranty that this thing should do him good, and he was entitled to say as it had done him no good he would only be required to pay for value received.

## Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* THOMAS HUGHES WILLIAMS, Prescott, Chemist.

THE adjourned public examination of this debtor was fixed for November 15, at the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Belringer, but upon the case being called, the Official Receiver said he had no further questions to put to the debtor, and the examination was accordingly ordered to be closed.

*Re* G. N. LASLETT, trading as Philipson & Co., 1 Budge Row, E.C.

A MEETING of creditors in this matter was held at the offices of Mr. L. Morse, 32 Queen Victoria Street, on November 20. The creditors in February last agreed to accept a composition of 10s. in the pound, payable in four equal instalments, guaranteed by debtor's father, Mr. H. J. Laslett. In April the first instalment was paid, and in August the second instalment. The third became due on November 1, but has not yet been paid. The trustee made application to Mr. Laslett, sen., for the money to pay this instalment, but he refuses to pay. Upon looking into the matter, Mr. Morse is of opinion that if legal measures were taken the creditors ought to be paid in full, and with that object in view it was resolved that the creditors should assign their debts to Mr. L. Morse, and he should take legal action with the assistance of a committee of the three largest creditors against Mr. H. J. Laslett to recover the balance of the creditors' claims—namely, 15s. in the pound. Mr. Morse stated that in any case the creditors would receive the balance of the 10s. composition.

*Re* HENRY WREN OLVER, late of 3 Oxford Street, W., Manufacturer of and Dealer in Toilet Articles.

THIS bankrupt applied on November 16 to Mr. Registrar Brougham, at the London Bankruptcy Court, for an order of discharge. The Official Receiver reported that the bankrupt failed in May, 1892, with ranking liabilities 2,102*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*, and assets valued at 314*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, but which only realised 180*l.* 10*s.*, which went in rent and costs of the bankruptcy. The bankrupt practised for some years prior to the failure as a dental surgeon. In February, 1890, he took premises in Oxford Street for the purpose of manufacturing and selling toilet preparations, and traded there under the style of the Salvine Manufacturing Company until September 1891, when he entered into an agreement for the sale of the business for 2,000*l.* No part of that amount had been received, and the claim against the purchaser was treated as a valueless asset. The failure was ascribed to the bankrupt's liability to recover the purchase-money and to the expenses of establishing and carrying on the business; also to liabilities incurred by him on behalf of the purchaser subsequent to the sale. The Registrar suspended the order of discharge for two years.

## Gazette.

### Partnerships Dissolved.

**Bell, C., Coverdale, G., and Brooke, B.**, pharmaceutical chemists, ointment manufacturers, Scarborough, under the style of Charles Bell & Co.

**Lightbourne, J. A., and Reid, J.**, physicians and surgeons Preston, under the style of Lightbourne and Reid.

**MacMunn, C. A., and Armitage, J. A.**, physicians and surgeons, Wolverhampton, under the style of MacMunn and Armitage.

**Sargent, H. C., and Sargent, G. E. H.**, physicians and surgeons, High Street, Stalwell, and Commercial Road, St. George's-in-the-East, under the style of Sargent and Sargent.

## Deed of Arrangement.

**Loam, James Gilbert**, Bridge Gate, Howden, chemist and druggist. Trustee, George W. Townsend, Carlisle Chambers, Goole, chartered accountant. Dated, November 12; filed, November 16. Liabilities unsecured, 294*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*; estimated net assets, 234*l.* 19*s.* The following are amongst the creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Allison, Johnson & Foster (Limited), Hull .. .. .	21	0	0
Ayrton & Saunders, Liverpool .. .. .	10	0	0
Bentleys Brewery Company, Woodnesford	14	0	0
Bleasdale (Limited), York .. .. .	32	0	0
Hay, William (Limited), Hull .. .. .	12	0	0
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst (Limited), Leeds ..	16	0	0
Raimes & Co., York .. .. .	55	0	0
Turton, T. C., Goole .. .. .	10	0	0
Wyleys (Limited), Coventry .. .. .	12	0	0

## New Companies & Company News.

**HESKETH & SON (LIMITED).**—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by J. Hesketh at Regent Street, Warrington, as "Hesketh & Son," and to carry on the business of, amongst others, chemists and dentists.

**PICTET SYNDICATE (LIMITED).**—Registered with twenty members, each liable for 1*l.* in the event of winding up. Objects: To adopt an agreement with R. P. Pictet, and to acquire and turn to account any patents, inventions, and the like relating to the separation of gases from their mixtures and their commercial application. "Table A" mainly applies.

**STAUNTON & CO. (LIMITED).**—Registered in Dublin. Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of a medical hall and the business of apothecaries, chemists, and druggists. The first subscribers are:—E. B. Staunton, Dominick Street, Galway, assistant in Medical Hall; J. Fogarty, Palmyn Park, Salthill, Galway, medical assistant; Miss A. Simple, 8 Dominick Street, Galway; Miss M. Staunton, 8 Dominick Street, Galway; Mrs. M. Fogarty, Palmyn Park, Salthill, Galway; Mrs. A. Simple, The Crescent, Galway; and J. J. Clogherty, Galway, builder and contractor. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 8 Dominick Street, Galway.

**ERA PHARMACY AND PHOTOGRAPHIC STORES (LIMITED).**—Capital 700*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business formerly carried on at 7 Broadway, West Norwood, by Mr. Mason, and recently assigned to John Salter, and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, and dealers in photographic materials and apparatus. The first subscribers are:—Mrs. M. J. Salter, Miss I. J. Salter, and Miss N. M. Salter, all of 7 Broadway, West Norwood, S.E.; Rev. M. H. Hawes, 79 Denmark Road, Camberwell, S.E.; A. D. Rae, 7 Cambridge Road, Anerley, chemist; F. R. Parrett, High Street, Leatherhead, photographer; and Mrs. E. A. Rae, 7 Cambridge Road, Anerley. J. Salter is the chairman and managing-director, and may retain office so long as he holds 350*l.* shares. Remuneration, 5*l.* per annum.

**PARKINSON & W. & B. COWAN (LIMITED).**—Capital 450,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (150,000 preference). Objects: To acquire the business of meter-manufacturers carried on at London, Manchester, Edinburgh, and Sydney by W. & B. Cowan (Limited), and the business of meter and stove manufacturers carried on at London, Birmingham, and elsewhere by W. C. Parkinson & Co., and to carry on the business of meter-manufacturers, gas and electrical apparatus manufacturers, gas-stove manufacturers, electrical and general engineers chemists, &c. The first directors are:—W. Cowan (chairman), W. Wark, W. C. Parkinson, W. H. Cowan, W. W. Parkinson, W. Cheshire, F. R. Smith, J. L. Cloudsley, and J. Hepworth. Remuneration, 150*l.* each per annum. Registered office, Smith Square Works, Westminster, S.W.

**SCHOOL BROW CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To obtain an assignment by H. A. Tolkein of the benefit of an indenture between J. Hargreaves and the said H. A. Tolkein, to acquire and turn to account any patents or inventions relating to the manufacture of chlorides, metallic oxides, and chemical products, and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists and druggists, drysalts, manufacturers of photographic and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—F. W. Duckworth, 293 Preston New Road, Blackburn, architect; H. A. Tolkein and C. E. Tolkein, both of 25 Azalea Road, Blackburn, managers of chemical works; J. Gill, 9 Harris Street, Halton View, Widnes, manager of chemical



works; Elizabeth Gill, 9 Harris Street, Halton View, Widnes; J. Hargreaves, May Villa, Farnworth in Widnes, chemical engineer; and Margaret H. Hargreaves, May Villa, Farnworth in Widnes. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, School Brow Chemical-works, High Street, Warrington.

**KYNOCH (LIMITED).**—The directors have resolved to issue to their ordinary shareholders one new ordinary share for each two ordinary shares now held by them. The total amount of this issue will be 125,000*l.*, and the money is required for the various new businesses in soap, candles, steel castings, nitric and sulphuric acid, and cycle components that have been added to the original business during the last few years.

**JOHN CALABRESE & CO. (LIMITED).**—Last week Mr. Justice Wright granted an order for winding-up this company on the petition of James Davey & Co. The company was formed with a nominal capital of 11,000*l.* to manufacture "Vermite." On Tuesday, November 20, the creditors were called together, when the circumstances were explained, and it was stated that the assets were in excess of the liabilities. It was agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the liquidator, with the view of coming to an arrangement with Mr. Calabrese, the manager of the company.

**BRITANNIA WORKS COMPANY (LIMITED).**—The report of the directors for the year ended October 31 states that, after payment of working-expenses, directors' fees, income-tax, &c., and making provision for doubtful debts, the net profit for the year's trading is 53,279*l.* This, with 3,553*l.* brought forward, gives 56,832*l.* for appropriation. Interim dividends of 8 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares and 6 per cent. on the preference shares have already been paid, and from the balance the directors recommend a final dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum. The directors propose to change the name of the company to "Ilford (Limited)."

**FROMMS EXTRACT COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Mr. Justice Wright, in the Companies Winding-up Court on Wednesday, had before him a petition by Mr. Albert Schwarz for compulsory winding-up of this company. Mr. Henderson, for the company, asked that the matter should stand over for a week, as affidavits containing very important charges against the directors had been filed. There was a serious attack on a managing director, and it was said that the petition was an arrangement between the petitioner and a member of the company against whom the company had commenced an action to recover 74*l.* on his shares. Mr. Reed, Q.C., who appeared in support of the petition, submitted that these charges and counter-charges were irrelevant. His Lordship adjourned the hearing for a fortnight, and reserved the question of costs.

**IDRIS & CO. (LIMITED).**—An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders is called for on Thursday, November 23, at the company's office, Pratt Street, Camden Town, at 3 P.M., to consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolution:—"That the capital of the company shall be increased from 200,000*l.* to 216,000*l.* by the creation of 16,000 new 'A' ordinary shares of 1*l.* each, which shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with the existing 34,000 'A' ordinary shares of 1*l.* each, and that clause 9 of the Articles of Association shall be modified accordingly." In a circular letter to the shareholders it is stated that a desire is frequently expressed by shareholders and customers of the company to acquire "A" ordinary shares, and the proposed increase will enable the company to apply for an official quotation of this class of shares. The balance-sheet and report for the year ending October 31, 1900, is in preparation, and will be ready for inspection before shareholders are asked to confirm the resolution.

**NEW GUADALCAZAR QUICKSILVER-MINES (LIMITED).**—The report of the directors for the year ended August 31 states that whereas the working of the mines for 1898 resulted in a loss of 925*l.*, and for 1899 in a loss of 1,029*l.*, the accounts for the year under review show a profit of 1,373*l.*, which has been applied in reduction of the debit balance of 1,890*l.* brought forward, and which now stands at 517*l.* to be carried to next account. The extraction of ore has amounted to 1,784 tons of 2,000 lbs. Spanish, as against

1,141 tons in the previous twelve months—an increase of 643 tons—and the assay value has risen from 1.15 per cent. to 1.33 per cent. The total quantity of ore treated by the furnaces has been 1,524 tons of 2,000 lbs. Spanish, from which 33,600 lbs., equal to 448 flasks, of quicksilver were recovered. Owing to the scarcity and dearness of fuel, no burning took place in the months of July and August, with the result that the quantity of ore on hand accumulated considerably. Good supplies of fuel have now come in, and the furnace was re-lighted in September.

**BOOTS' CASH CHEMISTS (EASTERN) (LIMITED).**—The directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ending September 30, shows that the company continues to make substantial progress. The gross profit from trading is put down at 28,235*l.*, rents receivable and transfer fees augmenting this sum to 28,854*l.* Repairs, renewals, and depreciation in properties, fixtures, and plant absorb 8,693*l.*, auditors' fees and income-tax take another 655*l.*, and a net profit of 19,502*l.* is left. To this is added 4,505*l.*, balance of profits brought forward from last year, and an available total of 24,007*l.* remains, which the directors recommend shall be applied to confirm dividends already paid on preference shares 6 per cent. per annum (5,498*l.*), and on ordinary shares 12 per cent. per annum (7,530*l.*); pay a dividend of 12 per cent. per annum on deferred shares (1,800*l.*); carry 1,000*l.* to reserve against freehold properties, and 1,460*l.* to general reserve fund; pay management expenses, including managing director's remuneration and directors' fees (750*l.*), and add 1,000*l.* to the branch managers' (chemists') provident fund. This leaves 4,939*l.* to be carried forward to next year. By this means nearly 4,000*l.* would be added to the depreciation fund, bringing it up almost to 23,000*l.*; the reserve funds would stand at 70,000*l.*, and the branch-manager's provident fund at 4,870*l.* Only two new branches have been opened during the year.

**LEWIS & BURROWS (LIMITED).**—The annual report and balance-sheet of this company for the twelve months ended September 30 have been issued, and will be submitted to the shareholders at a meeting to be held at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., on November 28. The directors point out that the hopes expressed at the last meeting with respect to the signs of healthy growth have proved to be well-founded, as the result of the year's trading is a considerably increased profit available for dividend and reserve. The net profit for the twelve months trading (after deducting 537*l.* 10*s.* for salaries of general manager and secretary, 700*l.* for directors, 100*l.* for auditors' fee, 122*l.* for repairs and improvement account, 822*l.* for depreciation reserve account) amounts to 4,807*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* An interim dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum for the half-year was duly paid on the preference shares on March 31 last, and, after providing for reserve, the directors recommend a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the preference shares for the past six months, and of 6 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares for the whole year. Of the 5,000 preference shares offered last November the directors report that all except 1,773 were immediately taken up; these are now offered to the present shareholders. The directors do not intend to extend operations by increasing the number of their shops until the balance of the authorised capital is in hand. The retiring director is Mr. J. R. Brough, who offers himself for re-election.

**MAGOR (LIMITED).**—In order to see the effect of the new management the directors have issued a report for the six months ended March 31 last. This shows a loss of 2,874*l.* In June last, the report sets forth, the directors found that Mr. Bayley (one of the managing directors) was using the company's premises at 3 Park Street, Walsall, for the preparation of a patent medicine, in which he was personally interested. Mr. Bayley, on being asked for an explanation, wrote saying that the preparation had been made up on the company's premises, and that one-third of the profit would be handed over to the company. The directors considered the explanation unsatisfactory, as no money had ever been received from this source, and as, in the opinion of the Board Mr. Bayley had neglected his duties, he was asked to resign. Mr. Bayley declined, and, according to the report, "the Board, had no other course open but to dismiss him." This was done on July 5. Mr. Needham took over the management of the company, and since then business has improved. It is



no longer being carried on a loss, and the directors have every reason to hope that when the accounts are made up to December 31 they will show a profit for this period. The principal items in the balance-sheet are—Liabilities: sundry creditors, 2,929*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*; bank, 863*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*. Assets: fourteen shops, 48,659*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*; stock, 9,173*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*; sundry debtors, 514*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*; cash, 236*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*. Loss to September, 1899, 2,333*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, loss to March 31, 1900, 2,874*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*; total loss, 5,207*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*. Mr. C. Bayley has issued a circular to the shareholders of the company in reply to the animadversions upon himself contained in the report. He denies that the existence of the Imperial Speciality Company was unknown to the directors of Magor (Limited). No secrecy was observed in the conduct of the business; the packing of the powders was openly done by the juniors and apprentices in spare time, and incurred no expense or loss to the company. Personally he had never received any profit whatever from the Imperial Speciality Company. The balance-sheets were laid before the directors of Magor (Limited), and the profit would be paid over in due course. The directors of Magor (Limited), Mr. Bayley continues, would have the shareholders believe that the loss on the company's trading was due entirely to his management, but the fact is that largely arose from the expenses incurred during the period in which he had no voice in the management. During this period the valuable lease and premises in Bull Street were abandoned, and two warehouses in Great Charles Street and a shop in Broad Street—all of which incurred a heavy loss to the company—were taken on. In the last calculation of the company's assets a different method was adopted, and this of itself produced a large alteration in the figures of the balance-sheet. Mr. Bayley adds that his action against the company is being pressed forward with all despatch.

## Personalities.

MR. J. A. STEWARD, chemist and druggist, was formally elected Mayor of Worcester at a meeting of the City Council on Tuesday.

MR. EDWARD WALTER GRIGGS, chemist and druggist, Haverhill, has been returned as a member of the School Board for the ensuing triennial term.

MR. WALTER CORNELL FISON, chemical manufacturer, Thetford, who is this year Mayor of that borough, in one of six local gentlemen whom the Lord Chancellor has just appointed Magistrates.



MR. ROBT. MATHIESON. The portrait here shown is that of Mr. Robert Mathieson, chemist and druggist, the newly-elected Provost of Innerleithen. He was returned to the Commission Board six years ago, and for five years he has acted as senior Bailie. Provost Mathieson is a native of Newmachar, Aberdeenshire, was born in 1862, and went to Innerleithen in 1886. Provost Mathieson has taken a great interest in the affairs of the town, and his appointment has given universal satisfaction. He is, as far as we are aware, the only pharmaceutical provost in Scotland at present. Hitherto this ancient office in the leading towns has rarely been filled by pharmacists. We may recall the names of Provost Baitie (Dumharton), the late Provost Reid (Montrose), and Provost Watt (Haddington) as amongst recent holders of the office.

MR. GEORGE T. GLYN-JONES, who during this year has been representing Messrs. Lorimer & Co. in London, has now gone out to Australia to take charge of the firm's connection there. Mr. Glyn-Jones will also represent Messrs. W. Butcher & Son, Blackheath, photographic dealers; Messrs. John Phillips & Son, sponge-merchants; and Messrs. Stephen Smith & Co. (Limited), Bow, wine-merchants. Mr. Glyn-

Jones will have an office in Sydney. Until he took up Mr. George Lorimer's work in London Mr. Glyn-Jones had been an apprentice and assistant with his brother, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, the Secretary of the P.A.T.A., in his pharmacy at Poplar, and his speedy appointment to so important a position as the Australian representation fairly indicates that there is more than one of the P.A.T.A. type in the family.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Oxford Chronicle*, *à propos* of the recent election of Mr. Claridge Druce to the mayoralty, writes:—

I had the pleasure of hearing the new Mayor's acknowledgment with his blushing honours thick upon him, and agree with the general verdict that it was one of the most modest, and yet ablest, speeches we have heard from the chair for years past. There can be no question as to the popularity of the choice which the city has made of a chief magistrate on this occasion.

One of Mayor Druce's first duties has been the reception of members of the colonial forces here from South Africa on tour in the provinces. His efforts were so keenly appreciated that on leaving Oxford on November 16, Corporal A. Lepuldencroft, on behalf of the members of Kitchener's and Roberts's Horse, handed to Mr. Druce a riding-whip taken from General Cronje's saddle after the battle of Paardeburg, in recognition of the great interest the Mayor had taken in the visit of the colonials.

## Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MR. A. C. SANBY has succeeded to the business of Messrs Proctor & Forth, 397 High Street, Cheltenham.

MR. T. J. PERKINS, chemist and druggist, has bought the business carried on as the Mile End Drug Stores at 99 Mile End Road, E.

MR. R. BLACKIE, Parker's Row, Bermondsey, has purchased the business at 182 Southwark Park Road, S.E., lately carried on by Mr. Beach.

MR. WILLIAM WYATT, chemist and druggist, is removing his business from 225 Somers Road, Southsea, to 2 The Market, Twyford Avenue, Landport.

MR. H. SPROSTON LEAN, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business at 433 Borough Road, Birkenhead, lately carried on by Mr. C. E. Scanlan.

A TEA-STORE in Strtford Road, Manchester, nearly opposite two old-established chemists' shops, has been converted into a pharmacy by Mr. W. H. Care, late of Walsall, Staffordshire.

MR. S. N. PICKARD, chemist and druggist, has disposed of his Bradford business, and has taken over the business of Mr. J. W. Cussons, at Ossett. Mr. Pickard is a member of the council of the C.D.A., and a director of the P.A.T.A. He is one of the founders of the Bradford Chemists' Association, and was its first secretary.

MR. A. J. PHILLIPS, pharmaceutical chemist, intimates that he has taken over the business for many years carried on at 13 Gledhow Terrace, South Kensington, S.W., by the late Mr. Plaister and for the last five years by Mr. Newton Spyer. The business will be conducted under the title of Plaister & Co., but Mr. Phillips states that he intends to devote his personal attention to the improvement of every department of the business, and that all dispensing will be in the hands of assistants "fully qualified by holding the diplomas of the Pharmaceutical Society."

AT CAMBRIDGE on Wednesday morning a Mrs. Rayner, who kept a small shop in East Road, and her three children were found dead, supposed to be killed with laudanum. In her room were found five small phials, all empty, and labelled "Laudanum—poison." The labels bore the names of "H. J. Church, 18 St. Andrew's Street"; "Boots, Cash Chemists, Petty-cury"; "A. A. Deck, Theatre Pharmacy, St. Andrew's Street"; "A. Deck, chemist, King's Parade"; and "J. Yeomans, Petty-cury."



## Festivities.

### BRADFORD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

Owing to the delay in the production of the new Pharmacy Bill, the conference of West Riding chemists, which had been determined upon by the Bradford Association to take place on Tuesday, November 20, had to be postponed indefinitely, and the members of the local Association engaged upon a musical evening. There was not a very good attendance, but, owing to the willingness and capability of the entertainers, the evening passed very pleasantly. The ladies and gentlemen who contributed to the programme were Mrs. Moulson, Mrs. Sutcliffe, Miss Mitchell, Mr. Hanson, Mr. L. B. Sutcliffe, Mr. Watson, Mr. G. Russell, Mr. Daniels, and Mr. Moulson. Their services were much appreciated, and the thanks of the members were expressed by Mr. Gilson and Mr. Waddington, and by unanimous resolution of those present.

### CHEMICAL CRICKETERS DINE.

Messrs. Howards & Sons' City Mills Cricket Club held their forty-first annual dinner at the Langthorne Rooms, Stratford, recently, Mr. David Howard, J.P., in the chair, and Mr. David Lloyd Howard, in the vice-chair. After dinner the Chairman proposed "The Queen and Royal Family," which was drunk with musical honours. The Chairman also proposed the "Navy, Army, and Auxiliary Forces," "Our Colonies," and "Success to City Mills C.C." Mr. C. S. Parker proposed "The Firm of Messrs. Howards & Sons." The Secretary read a report which showed that 14 matches had been played, 6 won, 7 lost, and 1 drawn, the club finishing bracketed second with Davy, Hill & Co. in the Wholesale Chemist and Druggist Championship League. During the evening songs were sung by Messrs. F. Murray, J. Brown, F. Newman, D. L. Howard, E. Franks, A. Walledge, J. W. Garnham, W. King, H. Sawyer, R. Strong, and W. Beasley. Mr. G. Gwinnell presided at the piano.

### PLYMOUTH CHEMISTS DINE.

Mr. W. Herbert Woods, the newly-elected President of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association, presided at the seventh annual dinner on November 21. The gathering also included Messrs. F. Maitland (Ex-President), C. J. Park, J. Cocks (Secretary), G. Breeze, J. Davy Turney, and J. Barge (Treasurer). After dinner Mr. Maitland proposed the toast of the "Pharmaceutical Society." He said that after strong opposition the objectionable clause in the Companies Bill was withdrawn, they hoped, never to appear again. The appointment of secretaries in each parliamentary division would tend to bring chemists into closer touch with the society. Speaking then on the unqualified dispensers question, he said in naval hospitals qualified dispensers were employed, and what was good for the Navy should be good for the Army. As to the Pharmacy Bill, which was still in embryo, before they could get anything from Parliament there would have to be a policy of give-and-take among chemists, and they must be unanimous. Any satisfactory legislation would have to be through the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. Park replied, and said that if the objectionable clause in the Companies Bill had passed it would have sounded the death-knell of pharmacy in this country. It was an anomalous state of things which permitted an individual who had failed to pass the statutory examination to form himself into a limited liability company, and so evade the Pharmacy Act. A Bill dealing with this question was under discussion by the Council. The Pharmaceutical Society had decided to inquire into dispensing in army and public institutions. So far as they knew, there was very little care exercised in dispensing for Tommy Atkins.

Mr. Winnicott proposed "The Plymouth Chemists' Association," and the President, in responding, referred to the good work the Association had done, especially in providing educational facilities for the junior members. From the correspondence in the papers as to treatment of dispensers in the South African campaign, it seemed that the Government, whilst enlisting dispensers from the ranks of educated men and deputing to them onerous and exceptional duties, treated them shabbily, their pay being miserable and posi-

tion invidious. During the actual progress of the war discussion on the subject would have been unpatriotic and ill-advised. If possible, the position of army-dispensers should be brought into line with that of the profession in Continental armies.

Mr. Breeze also responded. Mr. Barge proposed "The Junior Section," and Messrs. Fairweather and Spear replied. Mr. Meary gave the toast of "The Hon. Members and Visitors," and Mr. Kinton Bond acknowledged the compliment.

### WESTERN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association dined excellently well at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on November 21, Mr. Herbert Cracknell, their newly-elected President, being in the chair. The gathering was a large one, the Ruling Powers being represented by Messrs. C. B. Allen, Albert Cooper, and Walter Hills. The healing art (higher grade) was represented by Dr. Luff, who wittily toasted "The Western Chemists' Association." He commended the element of sociality which existed amongst chemists nowadays, and which was fostered by the W.C.A. He remembered in his younger days—and he was proud to think he had been trained within sound of the clang of the pestle and mortar and amid the savoury aroma of rhubarb and aloes—the deadly feud which existed between his father's business and their nearest neighbours. It was a miniature Montagu and Capulet affair. (Laughter.) Their retainers (in the shape of errand-boys) when they met in the highways they fought; but if the boy when he returned with a bleeding nose and several bottles smashed could conscientiously affirm that all the bottles in the other boy's basket were smashed, and that his opponent's features had been even more disfigured, he was freely forgiven. (Loud laughter.) He was glad this sociality was spreading, and he was even told that quite recently at Bloomsbury itself a magic-lantern had been introduced and the customs of the heathen Chinese explained. From this he had hopes that in time he might even be entertained by the cinematograph at the Society's rooms, and who knew but that a good conjuring show might follow, leading gradually up to the *ballet divertissement*. (Great laughter.)

The President having replied, Miss Dora Thorpe sang "Let us Forget," in spite of which the President immediately after rose and proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," regretting the deplorable fact that so many chemists held aloof from that body. He had often asked non-members of the Society their reasons, and had been greeted with the question, What has the Society done for me? He hoped Mr. C. B. Allen, with whose name he coupled the toast, would be able to assure them that in the forthcoming Pharmacy Bill, which had been a long time under the consideration of the Council, provision would at least be made that the titles should be protected. The Vice-President, replying, assured those present that the Pharmaceutical Society was progressing by leaps and bounds. This was shown by the increased amount of work which was entailed, and he was quite sure that any pharmacist, whether he be an "X-rayser," "an ordinary pharmacist," or any other kind, would be satisfied with the amount of work that the Council gets through. After touching lightly upon the latest achievements of the Council in arranging for an increased amount of elementary education and the scheme of local secretaries in each Parliamentary division, he said it was a difficult thing to produce a Pharmacy Bill which would bring about common agreement, and he was quite certain that the Bill when it did appear, would not satisfy everybody. He could assure the Chairman that the Council, by a very large majority, were practically agreed on the clause dealing with the restriction of titles. They had been already told, of course, that if a certain clause appeared in the Bill it was certain to be a failure. He could not say whether that would be so or not, but he was sure that whenever it appeared the Bill would be thoroughly discussed. "The Boys who Mind the Shop," by Mr. Wilfred Tracey, came as a not inappropriate interlude here; and the company having drank the health of Mr. Henry Long, the founder of the Western Chemists' Association, and its first President, the Chairman gave "The Visitors," and Mr. J. A. Dewhirst replied. During the evening the Lawler quintette discoursed excellent music, and besides the artists already mentioned, songs were sung by Mr. Henry Holyoake.





**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### The British Pharmacopœia as a Standard.

SIR,—In his letter on page 820, Dr. Attfield shows that his hand has not lost its cunning, and that he is as skilful of fence as ever.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes said "the charm of conversation is in what can be left unsaid." Similarly, the charm of controversy is in leaving unwritten what is supposed to be accepted by both sides. But this desirable practice is open to grave objection when one of the parties "does not play the game."

If Dr. Attfield, before addressing you, had done me the justice to read carefully the whole of my speech as reported in your columns (page 688), he would have seen clearly that I was referring to the British Pharmacopœia as a standard under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts simply—in fact, the reference to Dr. Attfield's attitude to the Pharmacopœia was sandwiched between passages in which the relation of the B.P. to those Acts was actually mentioned. Yet Dr. Attfield now asserts that when he denied (page 746) that he ever said that the B.P. had no right to be regarded as an authority for the articles named therein he meant in reference to the Medical and Pharmacy Acts, and not in reference to the Adulteration Acts! If Dr. Attfield had explained in his first letter that he was merely dragging a red-herring across the track, and was not able to deny my statement respecting his attitude to the B.P. as a standard under the Adulteration Acts, it would have saved much misunderstanding by myself and others.

Dr. Attfield appears desirous of not letting his right hand know what his left hand doeth, but he forgets that on-lookers can see both the dexter and sinister members at once. The statements he has made from time to time respecting the authority of the Pharmacopœia are regarded by many as strangely inconsistent, but they appear to be capable of the following simple explanation. I suggest that Dr. Attfield, like many other compounds familiar to chemists, exists in *three isomeric forms*. Thus we have the *dextro*-modification, which is the Editorial Attfield, of pungent but agreeable flavour, readily discomposed by contact with those who question the absolute infallibility and verbal inspiration of the gospel according to John Attfield (see F. B. Power, Pharm. Conference). Then there is the *levo*-Attfield, having a somewhat acrid and to many a disagreeable flavour. It is this form which occurs in the astute adviser of those who degrade their calling and fear to suffer the penalties of the law. The third is the *racemoid* or inactive modification, of agreeable aromatic flavour, which finds extensive application in the fine arts. Unfortunately, this isomer is liable to suffer conversion, from the slightest cause, into one or other of the active modifications. The following parallel statement will make the differences between the active isomers apparent:—

#### DEXTRO-ATTFIELD

Has always regarded and maintained the B.P. as a standard under the Adulteration Acts perfectly well understood).—Page 746.

Considers that "the broad authority of the Pharmacopœia as a standard for medicines named therein has never been, and is never likely to be, questioned by any thoughtful man."—Page 820.

#### LEVO-ATTFIELD

Does not regard the B.P. as a legal standard for drugs under the Adulteration Acts.—Plymouth Conference.

Has not protested against misuse of Plymouth speech when recently employed for excusing glaring adulteration of medicine.

The printed report of my speech is necessarily somewhat condensed, and one point is not made quite clear. My

hearers fully understood that the question was whether the Pharmacopœia should be regarded as a standard for the articles named therein, when such articles were intended to be used as drugs; and I stated that the Society of Public Analysts had recommended in a draft Bill that while the Pharmacopœia should be definitely established as the legal standard a number of articles named therein should be exempted by Order in Council. I have held strongly that beeswax, vinegar, soda-water, &c., when not intended for medicinal use or for compounding drugs, stood on a different footing from the majority of the articles described in the Pharmacopœia.

I have no desire to throw mud at the Pharmacopœia, which is plastered pretty thick already. While sharing the general opinion that it is discreditable to its compilers, I realise that the Editor is not wholly responsible for its deficiencies.

With the rest of Dr. Attfield's letter there is no occasion for me to deal. It suggests the habit of the sepiæ, which covers its retreat in a cloud of ink.

Yours truly,

Sheffield, November 19.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

#### Salicylic-acid Convention.

SIR,—Your notice *re* the breaking up of the salicylic-acid convention in your last issue has caused us to communicate with our friends, and we are instructed to reply that your report is correct in so far that notice of discontinuance of this convention has been given, but only for the purpose of a renewal on different lines. That there will not be much in the reconstruction which may affect the prices is already warranted by the simple fact that the present prices of the salicylates are the same as they were when carbolice acid was worth 7d. per lb., while at the present price of 11d. per lb. it is a question of doubt whether, even in case the convention was not to be renewed—that is, in open competition—the present prices could be maintained with a profit to the makers.

Yours very respectfully,

A. & M. ZIMMERMANN.

St. Mary-at-Hill, November 21.

#### The Etymology of Antimony.

SIR,—In "The Story of My Life," by Augustus J. C. Hare, Vol. V., page 171, just published, the author says that "the Duke [of Sermoneta] declared that the word 'antimonial' was really 'antimonacol.' The alchemists who lived in the old convents used to throw out of the windows the water which they had used in their search for the philosopher's stone; pigs drank the poisoned water and died; monks (monaci) ate the pigs and died also; hence the expression." The origin of the word has long been disputed by etymologists. Webster's Dictionary says, "The derivation from *anti* and *Fr. moine*, monk, as if monk's-bane, and that from *Gr. avti*, against, and *μῶνος*, alone, as never found alone, are both improbable." Probably it really comes from the Arabic *al-ithmidun*, or *al-uthmidun*, antimony. It seems, however, to have been discovered by the alchemists, so the Duke of Sermoneta may be right. Perhaps some of your learned readers can throw light on the question.

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

EDWARD BERDOE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.E.

London, November 17.

#### Horse-sickness.

SIR,—I have read your very interesting article on horse-sickness and the valuable work of Dr. Edington, but is it quite fair to ignore all those who worked before him, and with him, in the matter? The great value of Dr. Edington's work consists in bringing to a successful and practical issue the experiments of Veterinary Colonel J. A. Nunn, Veterinary Major Fred. Smith, and Civil Veterinary Surgeon Hutcheons. The two former were sent out many years before, and had provided the means—ploughed the ground, so to speak—for the later comer; while Mr. Hutcheons, as the Cape Government veterinary adviser, came very near to artificial salting before a bacteriologist was appointed over him. Experiments with blood, with serum, &c., had been performed, giving more or less immunity, but it remained for the doctor to work out an accurate system. For this he deserves the highest praise. "So far the Veterinary Department of the War Office," you



say, as if to emphasise its ignorance of the subject of horse-sickness at a quite recent date; but permit me to say that those instructions were not given to veterinary officers, but as general information to combatant officers of all ranks, and that had the Department been in possession of the knowledge so concisely put in your article, it would not have been of any practical utility to issue it among instructions already crammed with matters with which every officer was expected to make himself acquainted. If salting horses by Dr. Edington's method were to be carried out, it would not be by combatant or Service Corps officers in the field, or even by the Veterinary Staff. It is essentially an operation to be performed in peace times, and with six or seven weeks to do it in. As a veterinary officer and a quondam chemist, I shall feel obliged if you will allow me space for this explanation.

Yours faithfully,

HAROLD LEENEY, M.R.C.V.S.

#### Tannin in Wines.

SIR,—In your interesting editorial on the quinine-wine question, you speak of only a "trace" of tannin as being present in orange-peel. This, I submit, is scarcely accurate, and in view of the weight which is sometimes attached to "editorial utterances" even in courts of justice, perhaps it might be well to modify it. The tincture made from the dried orange-peel becomes inky-black when mixed with an iron salt, and even the new tincture made with the fresh peel gives a marked reaction for tannin. The precipitate found after allowing a freshly-made quinine-wine to stand for three days is now very much less than that which was found when one made it with sulphate of quinine. Even when left lying in bottle for about twelve months, I would estimate it as approximately 1 gr. in 12½ oz. (mostly as tannate) in summer, and perhaps double that quantity (partly as citrate) during a cold winter. It is obviously impossible to dogmatise as to what may be the ultimate fate of an alkaloid such as quinine when it is kept for some time in a liquid, such as orange-wine, containing tannates, citrates, extractive ethers, colouring-matters, and albuminoid constituents, and how it is possible that a quinine-wine made on such an ill-defined base as the orange-wine of the Pharmacopœia may lose in time 25 per cent. of its original strength, but so far as my observation goes 10 per cent. should cover all ordinary deficiencies.

Yours truly,

J. C. MCWALTER.

[The point which we specially desired to emphasise was that the tannin in orange-wine is mostly derived from the casks in which it is stored. Of that we have abundant evidence. It is a curious fact that few text-books mention tannin as a constituent of bitter-orange peel, and we do not think that the black colour with iron salts is wholly due to tannin. Dr. McWalter's observations are interesting and exactly on the line desired. He would do good service by continuing them, with the view of presenting a paper on the subject to the Dublin meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference.—EDITOR.]

SIR,—It would be an interesting study to make a note of all the debatable subjects that have figured in literature in years gone by, and which, at the time, were considered as having been settled once and for all, but which, after the lapse of a few years, once again stalk across our horizon like so many ghosts that refuse to be laid. No later than the beginning of this week the ghost of an old acquaintance of fifteen years ago reappeared before me in Glasgow. The question which arose was how to account for the deterioration of ipecacuanha-wine. Three of us were in the company, a medical man, a pharmacist, and myself. The first named told how he was awakened one night recently to prescribe for his own child, whose symptoms resembled croup, and happening to have some ipecac.-wine in the house he decided to give the child an emetic dose. He knew the wine was old, but rather than arouse a chemist he thought he would try it. He gave one teaspoonful and waited ten or fifteen minutes, but there was no result, and a second teaspoonful was equally valueless. He next tried wine of antimony, which had the desired effect. On the following morning he procured some fresh ipecacuanha-wine, and of this 20 drops were sufficient to induce free vomiting. My friends asked me for an explanation, and this I had little difficulty in supplying, for once again I recognised standing before me in all his spectral

nakedness the tannin fiend. Speaking on ipecacuanha-wine at an evening meeting in Edinburgh early in 1886, just after the publication of the 1885 Pharmacopœia, I used these words:—

The problem to be solved is not the strength of the wine when it is made, but how to preserve it for a matter of weeks or months. The fact that a sample of wine showed a certain percentage of alkaloid when freshly prepared proves nothing as to its condition a month afterwards, unless its physical character be such as to place it quite above suspicion. . . . If the unnecessary evaporation to dryness be avoided, and the tannin be precipitated from the sherry, the result will be found to be very satisfactory indeed.

In my hands the 1885 process as modified gave most excellent results, and never, during many years, did I hear of one failure with the ipecacuanha-wine so made. The 1898 B.P. has adopted the criticisms of myself and others, and a very much improved formula is now official for the preparation of a liquid extract, but the second half of my proposal has been ignored, with the result that old ipecac.-wine is to-day not one whit better than old wine was twenty years ago.

The process that I recommended for removing the tannin from sherry and orange wines, and which was, as you state, adopted in 1891 by the B.P.C. Formulary Committee, consisted in macerating gelatin in the wines for one or two weeks. In the years that followed I satisfied myself that detannation, if properly carried out, absolutely prevented all precipitation in the case of both ipecacuanha and quinine wines. Any pharmacist can satisfy himself in a month, particularly as regards quinine-wine, of the truth of this statement. Let him take a sample of ordinary orange-wine, remove the tannin by the B.P.C. process from one portion, and then make two samples of quinine-wine, one from treated and the other from untreated wine, and he will find for himself that in reference to the latter the result will be exactly as stated in the Highgate defence. Inasmuch, therefore, as the B.P. gives no indication that orange-wine free from tannin is to be used in making quinine-wine, it appears to me that that defence was irrefragable, and that the presiding judge acted in strict legality in dismissing the case. With untreated orange-wine containing tannin a variable proportion of the quinine is deposited as tannate in the form of a muddy precipitate; when prepared with detannated orange-wine the genuine wine remains clear and bright for an indefinite period.

Exactly the same thing occurs in the case of ipecacuanha wine, but probably the evil is not noticed so readily, as the convenience with which the wine can now be made from the liquid extract is such that pharmacists who know the risky nature of the preparation are content to make only small quantities at a time. Why should it be that after all these years this spectre should still be constantly appearing to distress us? The answer is simple. The B.P., though improving the process for making the liquid extract, has effectually prevented any good result, so far as the wine is concerned, by failing to adopt any process for removing the tannin from the sherry. There is not a single member of the B.P. Committee but knew that tannin is incompatible with alkaloids. Every text-book reiterates the fact to weariness, and they could hardly plead ignorance that there was a process, for they should have known there was such a process in the B.P.C. Formulary which they in earlier years had emasculated to provide addenda for the 1885 Pharmacopœia. I have no special anxiety to see the gelatin-process adopted, but some process is clearly necessary. So far as I remember at the moment the only other method suggested is one found in the U.S. Formulary, in which ferric oxide is used to precipitate the tannin from tincture of cinchona, and which I never found to be very successful. There are, doubtless, objections to the gelatin-process. For one thing it is wasteful, there being a loss of from 10 to 20 per cent. of wine, but surely this could not influence the Editor of the Pharmacopœia. Then it is sometimes found that a little gelatin is dissolved in the orange-wine, but this depends a good deal on the gelatin. There is little fear of any gelatin going into solution in a sherry with the average percentage of spirit, but it is different with the orange-wine, and for the latter a less soluble gelatin should be selected.

Yours truly,

Glasgow, November 10.

T. MABEN.



## Drawing Closer.

SIR,—I have read your editorial headed "Overloading the Bill," and I think it is a remarkably able exposition of the present position and the present feeling in pharmaceutical circles. From that editorial, from hints regarding the feeling of the majority on the L. & P. Committee, from Mr. Broadhead's draft Bill, and from various remarks made in different parts of the country, I gather that we are all drawing closer together in our aims and endeavours. It is agreed on all sides that the company abuse is most urgent, therefore it must take first place on the programme of reform. It is also agreed, I think, that this matter must be dealt with by itself. I understand that there is some difference of opinion on this matter in the Law and Parliamentary Committee, but these gentlemen will do well to bury their differences, and adopt the line of action which is obviously favoured by a large majority of the more thoughtful men throughout the country. They will also do well to produce their Bill at the earliest possible date. It ought always to be kept in mind that it is difficult to maintain the interest of any community in an affair which does not show evidences of real progress, and if the Committee continues to procrastinate as it has been doing, the state of harmony and unity which is evident on all sides may not sustain the strain. Nobody can have strong objections to Mr. Broadhead's draft Bill, as it is pretty near to what the country evidently wishes; nevertheless, its very appearance goes to prove that the Council is straining the endurance of the Pharmaceutical community. Unless the real Bill is produced soon, Mr. Broadhead's draft Bill will probably be followed by a number of other draft Bills from different parts of the country, many of which may be very much more objectionable than Mr. Broadhead's. Nothing is so much to be feared just now as the production of a confusing mass of suggestions. We know by past experience that this is a calamity with which the Pharmaceutical Council is quite unable to cope. Yet, by its procrastination, it is leaving chemists to hold meetings and make speeches which under the circumstances may at any time divide the country. It is known to all what the country wants; what can be probably got from Parliament is also known; every important point has been fully discussed; therefore, further delay is bound to lead to disaster. If some members hanker after a compulsory curriculum, they may be quite sure that such a clause would wreck the Bill. This clause would be opposed as heartily by chemists as by outsiders. I have no doubt it will come in time, but we are not ripe for it yet. If the Committee is still stumbling over the widows' clause, it will do well to remember that although this clause was of the utmost importance when we thought it possible to stop drug-companies altogether, it is of practically no importance when we confine our efforts to mere restriction and regulation of companies. The principle involved in the carrying on of a widow's business does not arise here. I quite agree with Mr. Broadhead when he suggests that all branch shops should be in the hands of qualified managers, whether they belong to chemists or companies, but in the case of companies this is not enough. When a private chemist has several branches, each in the hands of a qualified man, the whole concern is under the control of a qualified general manager as well—namely, the chemist himself. We must have the same terms for stores. The general manager controls all the branches, and it is humiliating and degrading for a qualified branch manager to be placed in a position subordinate to an unqualified general manager; neither has the qualified man power in this case to safeguard the public interest. In the case of a limited company the general manager ought to be qualified and have a seat on the board of directors, and although this is not all we would like it would go much further than appears on the face of it.

Dumfries, November 19.

JAMES REID.

SIR,—Mr. Wootton as an exemplar in Euclid is peculiar. Axioms used to be stated to be self-evident propositions, and Euclid's methods of demonstration mathematically perfect. Modern controversy is, however, governed by logic, which eliminates confusion. Mr. Wootton's so-called axioms consist of one elaborate statement—that the goodwill, including use of name of a chemist and druggist, is and ought to be marketable. I call that a postulate which, "if in a weak moment . . . accepted," we shall certainly be cornered. According to logic, everything falls into one of two classes

—"is or is not." Euclid allows that we may have "less than" "equal to" and "greater than." I desire a straight issue, and like best the more direct method; qualification is either personal or it is not. I prefer this to "occasionally personal" or "not personal." The agitation of the last few years has been so far successful as to force the great exponent of sophistry into the open and show the value of his weapons. We are getting on. The drug-trade is a trade the same as any other, and differs essentially from the medical profession. Either this is or it is not. If so, why a Pharmacy Act? Why not simply a Poisons Regulation Act?

The primary object of the Act of 1853 was to amend the Pharmacy Act of 1832 in order to secure that all persons practising as chemists shall have been duly examined. Educational qualification and police regulation are essentially different. If the object of the Pharmacy Act was to secure an educated body for the exclusive exercise of definite functions and use of titles, then the pharmacist differs essentially from simple traders who ought not to be able to become professional persons. "So long as Parliament retains the Pharmacy Act on the statute book we have the right to demand that its principles shall be respected." I am glad Mr. Wootton has got so far; but how can he reconcile the statement with his assertion that "company-pharmacy" cannot be stopped? His contention appears to be that some undefined system of qualified directorate will satisfy the principles of the Act. I have repeatedly, but unsuccessfully hitherto, challenged him to descend to details. My endeavour has always been to get at the point of view of the lay legislators. Every experience proves that they wish to know how to regard the question—as a traders or as a professional one. We are confirmed in our conviction that by standing on the Act of 1853 we shall get justice, whilst all experience proves that if we cannot unite on that we shall inevitably get a vicarious qualification.

In going to Parliament, it will be fatal to try and serve two masters—trying to serve two interests, professional and trading. I submit we should go to Parliament to make operative the Act of 1838 simply; further, if we try to correct the inconsistencies of that Act (inevitable in a new departure), we shall strengthen our position. The widows' clause is an inconsistency; it should, therefore, be dealt with. Mr. Wootton has always elaborated the widows' clause into a bogey; it is a bogey merely. The late husband's connection gives her goodwill; but "death is inevitable," and qualifications are not transmutable. The use of dead men's names in professional work is an inconsistency, and should be amended. I do not say that the Bill needs to be theoretically perfect. It must be practicable, and it would not be surprising to find the wit of the committee equal to dealing with historic houses and branch shops. Mr. Westmacott, F.R.C.S., at Manchester, gave it as certain that the business, the trading interests of a chemist and druggist, were altogether outside of the question; that the principles of qualification for personal and unlimited responsibility must be established on an enduring foundation; that chemists must unite on this as their only hope; that we shall get the support of the medical profession in this, as it strikes at the foundation of all professional practice. There is no question but that he is right. We should value such advice—which is universal outside the drug and grocery trades—for medical opinion concerning pharmaceutical matters will have much influence with the House of Commons. I am aware that we did not have the support of Sir W. Foster—*e.g.*, on the Companies Bill. But why? For the same reason that Clause 2 was inserted. Chemists do not agree, apparently, on an elementary principle. How can the medical profession, then, join hands with us, except on the professional issue? Giving and taking is out of the question with them. Let me briefly touch a few side-issues which are brought forward:—(1) What is pharmacy? The Act of 1838 is the only definition which concerns us, for if the essential principles of that Act are made secure, a natural evolution of pharmacy becomes possible. (2) It is stated that the Drafting Committee's duty is to accommodate different views. Surely the duty of the committee is to find the correct and practicable view in the light of experience and probability. (3) That we should shut our eyes and open our mouths and swallow what the committee gives—in other words, wait until it is useless, and then advance



argument. The committee can easily modify its draft now; it will be much more difficult after publication.

Yours faithfully,

Blackburn, November 20.

R. LORD GIFFORD.

### Dispensing Notes.

A section for the elucidation of difficulties and interchange of views on dispensing-problems.

#### For Experiment.

We shall be glad if our dispensing correspondents will experiment with the following, and report:—

The following is a very troublesome mixture:—

Spt. am. co. ...	...	...	...	5vj.
Pot. brom. ...	...	...	...	5ss.
Liq. bism. ...	...	...	...	5ij.
Fer. quin. cit. ...	...	...	...	5j.
Tr. aurant. ...	...	...	...	5ss.
Aq. ad... ..	...	...	...	5vj.

M.

I dilute spirit as much as possible, but when added to pot. brom. and fer. et quin. cit. in solution it throws the fer. et quin. cit. out. How can this be remedied?

R. H. MOORE.

The subjoined prescription gives mixtures which vary in colour according to the *modus operandi*. What is the dark colour due to?

SIEMUS. (230/21.)

Creosoti ang. (beech.) ...	...	...	...	5iss.
Syr. simplicis ...	...	...	...	5ij.
Mucil. acacie... ..	...	...	...	5vj.
Sodæ hypophos. ...	...	...	...	5ias.
Liq. calcis sacch. ...	...	...	...	5vj.
Ol. morrhue ad ...	...	...	...	5viij.

M. Ft. mist.

5ss. bis die p.e.

235/37. *Saturni*.—(1) The reason that the pills containing hyd. c. cretâ and ext. gentiane swell is that the extract is slightly acid and reacts on the chalk, slowly liberating carbon dioxide. (2) See the formula for Churchill's inhalation, "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 514. It seems to be the same as the spray you refer to.

216/45. *S. F. G.*—The doctor who prescribed magnesium carbonate and aromatic sulphuric acid together in a mixture had overlooked the fact that they are incompatible. Better tell him so—gently.

223/43. *A. H. J.*—We think with you that the dispenser had taken "liq. sacch." to mean "sacch. ust." instead of solution of saccharin, which was meant.

233/22. *Junior*.—(1) The note in "The Art of Dispensing" (new edition, page 65) regarding Extract of Belladonna need not alarm you. In prescriptions dated before the 1898 B.P. was published "extract. belladonnæ" means the green extract. Now there is no article in the Pharmacopœia of the name "extractum belladonnæ" without a distinguishing suffix, but, owing to custom, we think that, in the majority of instances, prescribers mean the green extract when they prescribe extract. belladonnæ in pill. (2) By Pil. Col. c. Hydrarg. et Hyoscyam. we should understand a pill composed of 2 or 3 parts pil. col. c. hyos. and 1 part of pil. hydrarg. We know that pill to be in use in some parts of the country.

### Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

235/61. *Victory*.—The I.R. officer's blundering does not, of course, alter the law. You have no redress as to the non-licensing of the new premises as the legal formalities were not complied with. You may lay the facts before the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, but the only likely result is that the local officer will be severely reprimanded, and you will lose rather than gain by that. You have no ground of action against the Board.

243/20. *Venom* informs us that the Board of Inland Revenue has passed a medicated wine as non-excisable, but stipulates that it should be sold only by registered chemists and druggists. "Venom" asks by what law could the Board support such a ruling as this, and how could the Board enforce it? This is a most interesting question which we should like to see answered by an appeal to the Courts. The powers of the Board of Inland Revenue under various Revenue and Spirits Acts are exceedingly wide, and undoubtedly comprehend some restriction in regard to the sale of medicinal compounds prepared from excisable liquors.

233/35. *J. M. A.* submits the annexed label, and asks if we think a Judge would allow a few grains over or under in weight. To that we need only reply that no public analyst is likely to advise a prosecution for the sale of seidlitz-powders a few grains more or less of the active ingredients; but if a summons were issued under section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, in respect to such powders sold with the label printed, the label would suffice for the dismissal of the summons. We do not think the use of such a label is altogether wise.

#### SEIDLITZ-POWDER 3.

Carefully hand-weighed, but to a few grains cannot be guaranteed to be the exact weight given in the British Pharmacopœia on account of possible loss by drying, leakage, or by accident in weighing. They are guaranteed to be made with the purest ingredients according to the British Pharmacopœia.

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

203/34. *Apprentice*.—Liquor Eastonii in two solutions:—

(1)

Strychninæ (in powder) ..	...	gr. v.
Ac. phosph. conc. ...	...	℥lxxv.
Aq. destill. ...	...	℥ccxxv.

Dissolve and add—

Quin. phosph. ...	...	5ij.
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Dissolve by the aid of a gentle heat and add—

Syrup. ad ...	...	5iiss.
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(2)

Ferri (wire) ...	...	gr. lxxv.
Ac. phosph. conc. ...	...	5x.
Aq. dest. ...	...	5x.

Heat together in a flask till the wire is dissolved, filter on to ac. hypophosph. 5ss., and make up if need be to 5iiss.

5j. each of 1 and 2 mixed with 5vj. syr. simpl. makes Easton's syrup.

204/60. *F. R.*—The following interpretation of Gould's Hop-compound prescription was given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in 1896, and is also in "Pharmaceutical Formulas":—

Hops ...	...	1½d. worth
Assar-root [sassafras] ...	...	2d. "
Condru-bark [burdock] ...	...	1½d. "
Kradna-root [mandrake] ...	...	1½d. "
Rolique-root [liquorice] ...	...	1½d. "
Noil-root [dandelion] ...	...	1½d. "
Rock-root [gentian] ...	...	1½d. "
Tacher [chiretta] ...	...	1½d. "
Lump-sugar ...	...	4 pieces

211/63. *S. A. W.*—Thanks for the cuttings.

214/32. *Pharm.*—Examinations for the Scotch Triple Qual.—See our Educational Number. The chemistry and botany of the examinations are not quite so difficult as the Minor. The other subjects are supposed not to be so stiff as in the English double qual. Of course you cannot enter for the examination as a private student. You must attend a recognised school.



199/61. *Mirror*.—To Silver Plate Glass.—It would hardly pay you to silver a strip of glass for placing behind shelves, as silvered strips cut off the edges of mirrors are cheap. The following, from "Pharmaceutical Formulas," is the easiest process:—

Dissolve 15 gr. of silver nitrate in 5 dr. of water and add strong solution of ammonia until the precipitate at first formed is redissolved, then add 15 gr. of caustic potash dissolved in 1 dr. of water. A precipitate is formed, and ammonia is again added until it is almost dissolved. Next add a saturated solution of silver until the colour changes to a straw colour. Now place the glass to be silvered in a flat dish (such as a developing-dish) with supports which will raise it about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch from the bottom. Pour water into the dish to completely cover the under-surface of the glass; remove the glass, pour some of the silver solution into the water, stir; then add some solution of pure dextrin, again stir and replace the glass. A deposit of metallic silver is formed on the surface of the glass in about fifteen minutes.

235/50. *Sigma*.—(1) Concentrated Lung-balsam.—For adults and children this should be free from opiates. The following may suit your purpose:—

Spt. chloroformi	...	...	...	3ss.
Spt. ammon. arom	...	...	...	3j.
Ext. ipecac. liquid.	...	...	...	3ss.
Tr. scillæ	...	...	...	3iss.
Liq. rosæ dulc.	...	...	...	3j.
Syrup. tolutan. ad	...	...	...	3viij.

M.

Dose for an adult, one teaspoonful; for child of 1 year, 5 drops; and so on in proportion to age.

(2) For Winter Balm a liquid preparation containing some free fat is advisable. Try the following:—

Lanoline	...	...	...	3j.
Cocoonut oil	...	...	...	3iij.
Powdered Castile soap	...	...	...	3ij.
Powdered borax	...	...	...	3j.
Distilled water	...	...	...	3j.

Rub well together in a mortar; then add gradually—

Tepid water ... .. 3v.

Stir well to emulsify, and finally add the following:—

Simple tincture of benzoin...	...	...	...	3iij.
Oil of rose geranium	...	...	...	mv.
Oil of lavender	...	...	...	miij.
Rose-water	...	...	...	3j.

(3) A Winter Embrocation made with cod-liver oil is a good idea. Try the following:—

Ol. morrhue	...	...	...	3iv.
Ol. eucalypti	...	...	...	3j.
Ol. terebinth.	...	...	...	3vj.
Liq. ammon.	...	...	...	3vj.
Lin. saponis	...	...	...	3j.

Mix well by shaking.

211/28. *Canuck*.—Cows Giving Ropy Milk.—When cows are drying off, the ropery condition is common, but if in full profit there is some digestive disorder, and maize-meal is probably the origin of your client's trouble. Its recurrence a short time afterwards is likely to have been from the same disturbance. Maize-meal, when used during hay famines, has been proved to cake around the bowels, and allow the passage of fæces with apparent recovery from indigestion and suppressed or imperfectly-formed milk, and later on the masses which had adhered to the sides have been detached, and all the old symptoms returned. Your client had better give a bold aperient to each, such as

Aloes soc.	...	...	...	3vj.
Pulv. zingib.	...	...	...	3j.
Mag. sulph.	...	...	...	lb. j.

Then follow with ant acids and carminatives, when he will probably get the milk right as well as increased in quantity (see "Veterinary Counter Practice," 1900 edition, page 165).

242/1. *A. M. J.*—Warts on a Cow's Udder.—Dip silk thread in solution of salicylic acid in spirit, and tie the wart tightly round the base while the thread is wet.

236/37. *A. R. P. S.*—For the Egg-producer boiled, dried, and powdered horse-flesh is, we understand, the cheapest nitrogenous addition.

204/34. *Calves* has a farmer customer who tries to Rear Calves. Sometimes he buys 10 or 20 a few days old, and finds it very difficult to rear them all. Two, 3, or 4 of them often die within the first week, and on opening them he finds coagulated milk in their stomachs. He has tried several remedies, but all to no purpose. What can be done for them? [This is a universal cry on the part of those who purchase calves at a distance and try to rear them. They have been often fasted a long time before they get home to the new place, and the first meal disagrees with them. The excitement of fairs and markets upsets them, and then they are commonly given too much milk at a time. The curd is always found in very young calves when scouring, which symptom was no doubt present in the case described. A dose of oil breaks up the curd in the early stage, and though necessarily acting as an aperient, constricts the bowels afterwards. We have known tablespoon doses of linseed oil three times a day succeed where the more active castor oil does not, and would advise it to be tried. Recommend the milk to be given warm, in small quantities, and one-third of lime water added, during the first ten days, gradually substituting whole milk. A very important consideration is the calf-house, which with those who rear a lot of calves is generally filthy in the extreme, and sour smelling. In this state, the infectious form of scours is developed, and no treatment is of the slightest use, unless as a preliminary the building is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. If "Calves" would visit the place and instruct his customer in the proper method of disinfection he would probably confer a great benefit.]

241/45. *Elbana*.—Your query does not come within the rules under which this column is conducted.

243/16 *Nemo*.—Hair-stimulant.—The choice of recipes in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" is wide on account of the fact that there are many causes for the hair falling out. As a rule, however, scurf is the chief reason, and therefore it is necessary to use a lotion of an alkaline nature which will free the roots of the hair from *débris*, and stimulate the circulation so as to restore the sebaceous secretion to its normal condition. For this purpose there are few lotions better than the following:—

Solution of ammonia	...	...	...	1 oz.
Tincture of cantharides	...	...	...	6 dr.
Tincture of capsicum	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ dr.
Bay rum	...	...	...	2 oz.
Water to	...	...	...	8 oz.

Mix, allow to stand for a few days, and filter through fullers' earth.

This lotion is to be well rubbed into the roots of the hair every night with a small sponge, and the hair afterwards should be well brushed. No grease of any kind should be applied during the first week that this is used, and thereafter only a few drops of brilliantine, if it should be necessary; but it is better not to use grease at all.

238/71. *J. A. S.*—We sympathise with your aspirations, but for publication you should not write on both sides of the paper.

237/56. *Spes*.—The only way you can get information as to the pensions of ex-Consuls is to apply to the Foreign Office.

242/25. *A. J. D. B.*—It is impossible to say what the actual origin of the gum is without more botanical data; but it is "gum arabic" of low quality, and worth little on this market. The best Pará rubber is worth 4s. per lb. as imported. African rubber is much less valuable.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

19/99. Maker of Cunningham's ginger-ale.

249/90. Condron's Panstrepton (flesh-brushes): where obtainable?



## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: November 22.

THE markets have again a dull tone about them, and there appears no prospect of improvement at present. There have been several important changes, however, chief of which is a substantial advance in santonin. Opium has also advanced about 3*d.* per lb., and German refined camphor is a fraction higher. Citric acid is slightly firmer in secondhands, and so is saffron. Cod-liver oil is offering at lower rates again, dealers in Norway being anxious to reduce their holdings. Quinine is "sick" in secondhands. The following are the principal changes of the week, including those recorded at the drug-auctions:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Camphor (Germ.)	Acid, citric	Rosin	Cubeb
Cardamoms	Ammonia sulphate	Senega	Oil, almond
Coca-leaves	Golden seal		Oil, castor (Belg.)
Copaiba	Menthol		Oil, cod-liver
Ginger (Jam.)	Saffron		Oil, linseed
Guinea-grains	Wax (Japan)		Quinine
Opium			
Pulv. seidlitz			
Santonin			
Shellac			
Sodatart. (B.P.)			

### Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from November 15 to 21, both inclusive:—Aloes, 30 (@ Aden), 9 cs.; annatto, 12; arrowroot (Natal), 42; benzoin, 95; "bitter apples" (@ Almeria) 7 cs.; camphor (@ Hamburg), 197; tubs, 1,188 cs., (@ Kobe) 700; camphor oil, 85; caraway-seed, 370; castor oil (E.I.), 273; cardamoms, 165; cinchona (@ Colombo) 128, (@ Calicut) 27; civet, 2; cocoa-butter, 8; cod-liver oil, 51; drugs (@ Boulogne) 4, (@ Amsterdam) 4, (@ Hamburg) 8, (@ Ghent) 8 bls.; essential oils (@ N.Y.) 34; galls (Persian), 1,046, (@ Marseilles) 36; gentian, 8; glycerin (@ Melbourne) 14; gum arabic (@ Suez) 151; honey (Chil.), 173; iodine, 221; gum unenumerated (@ Bushire), 284; gum tragacanth, 788; honey, 60; juniper-berries, 40; lime-juice, 10; liquorice (@ Batoum) 160, (@ Busreh), 39; menthol, 10; oil, anise, star, 20; opium (Tky.), 10, (Persian), 63; quillaia, 448; saffron, 1; sarsaparilla, 10; senna (Tiny.), 27; (Alex.), 10; soy, 274; strophanthus (@ Natal), 43 bgs.; turmeric (@ Calcutta), 43; vanilla, 2; wax, bees' (Fr.), 10.

### Cablegrams

HAMBURG, November 22, 1.54 P.M.:—Reports from Spain state that the stocks of ergot are exhausted. Refined camphor, cumin-seed, and senega are all firm, with no immediate prospect of a drop.

\* \* \* \*

NEW YORK, November 21, 3.35 P.M.:—A fair business is doing here, the following being the chief articles of interest:—Balsam copaiba has advanced to 36c. per lb., asafetida is scarce at 25c. per lb., senega-root is easier at 45c. per lb., and Rio ipecacuanha is quiet at \$2.75 per lb. Mexican sarsaparilla is also easy at 7½c. On the other hand, ergot is a strong market at 57c., and opium keeps firm at \$3.40 per lb.

### The Proposed Carbide Syndicate.

The international meeting of the calcium-carbide manufacturers at Berlin on November 9 for the purpose of forming a syndicate proved unsuccessful, for on the following day some of the principal manufacturers tried to form a combination among themselves, but whether they have succeeded is not yet known.

### A Chance for Ireland.

Mr. Arthur Cave, Schull, announces his intention of at once reopening a number of barytes and umber mines in West Cork, which have been closed for the last fifty years. This will give immediate employment to over a hundred hands. Formerly these mines gave work to some thousands of persons in the district.

### Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

A steady business continues to be transacted at all the main centres of the heavy-chemical market, and the tone all round is very steady. Home-consuming trades are in steady employment, and the demand for miscellaneous products keeps very fair. Moderate business is also being done for forward requirements. Export demand, as is usual at this period of the year, is somewhat on the decline. There are no changes of special importance in values, these being, as of late, steadily and firmly maintained.

**ALKALI-PRODUCE.**—Bleaching-powder is in good and steady demand, and keeps firm in value. For softwood casks, free on rails, prompt present figures are about 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 15*s.* For next year's delivery, however, 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton is still the figure which is being asked. Caustic soda is in strong demand, and continues to maintain a very firm position both for prompt and forward. Present prices are:—76 to 77 per cent., 11*l.* 5*s.* to 11*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton; 70 per cent., 10*l.* 5*s.* to 10*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton; and 60 per cent., 9*l.* 5*s.* to 9*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., firm and in steady request, 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton free on rails for prompt; and 4*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton for forward. Soda-crystals steady at unchanged rates of 6*s.* 6*d.* per ton, f.o.b. Tyne; and 6*s.* 6*d.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Bicarbonate of soda keeps in steady request, 6*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 10*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, in 5-cwt. casks, and 6*l.* 15*s.* to 7*l.* per ton in 1-cwt. kegs. Chlorates of potash and soda are still on the easy side, the former crystals, f.o.b. Liverpool, 3½*d.* to 4*d.* per lb., and the latter 4½*d.* to 4¾*d.* per lb. Salts are steadily maintained at about 27*s.* 6*d.* per ton, free on rails in bulk for prompt, with forward figure 30*s.* per ton. Sodium sulphate, Glauber's salts, 20*s.* to 32*s.* 6*d.* per ton, free on rails in bags. Silicates of soda are very firm, and with good inquiry have advancing tendency, 140° Tw., 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* per ton; 100° Tw., 3*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton; and 75° Tw., 3*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton, f.o.b. Tyne or Liverpool, in ordinary casks with customary extras for other packages. Yellow prussiate of potash keeps on the easy side, and has a weaker tendency. Best Lancashire makes, 7½*d.* per lb. Hyposulphite of soda is steadily maintained at 7*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 7*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton in 7 to 8-cwt. casks, and 7*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 8*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton in 1-cwt. kegs.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is firmer and steadier, and about 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton higher than last quotations.

ZINC SALTS are moving well at late rates. Sulphate crystals, 6*l.* 15*s.* to 7*l.* per ton. Chloride of zinc solution, 100° Tw., 6*l.* 15*s.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton. Chloride of zinc, cake pure, 11*d.* to 1*s.* per lb.

### Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, November 21.

**CASTOR OIL.**—Sales continue to be made of good seconds Calcutta at 3½*d.* per lb., and stocks are getting into narrower compass. The *Statesman* has just arrived with 277 casks, and only a limited number of these will be offered on the open market. Forward quotations from Calcutta continue at a high range of value. French and English first and second pressure are entirely wanting at the moment.

**CHILLIES** (Sierra Leone).—Holders have now raised their limits, and quote 60*s.* per cwt. for 30 bags.

**CANARY-SEED.**—The stock of Turkish is much reduced, and sales are reported at 33*s.* per quarter, and now 34*s.* per quarter is asked. Many holders have withdrawn from the market.

**HONEY.**—The market is practically bare of Californian—for the few remaining casks 42*s.* 6*d.* to 54*s.* per cwt. is asked, as in quality. Small supplies are booked for this season. Chilean is in still smaller compass, and values are fully maintained from 22*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.*, as in quality. Over 400 barrels have changed hands, chiefly Pile I. at 24*s.* to 25*s.* 6*d.*, and Pile II. at 23*s.* 6*d.* to 24*s.* per cwt.

**ACACIA.**—Stocks are gradually growing, but importers are unanimous in asking steady prices for their lots. Values vary from 70*s.* to 85*s.* per cwt., but no actual transactions are to be reported.



**TURPS.**—Easier, at 30s. 9d. to 31s. 6d. per cwt.; the article is fluctuating in value daily, frequently many times per day.

**QUILLAI-BARK.**—About 20 tons in all have changed hands at 13l. 17s. 6d. to 14l. 5s. per ton, and this price is being quoted by importers for further lots.

**SPERMACETI, CHILIAN.**—The remaining small stock has been cleared off the market, and price has advanced to 1s. 3½d. per lb. American is held firmly for 1s. 4d. per lb.

**BEESEWAX.**—Chilian is unchanged in value, but very firmly held. **GRAINS OF PARADISE.**—A small lot of a few bags sold at 40s. per cwt.; no more are to be had.

**KOLA-NUTS.**—For the parcels of W.C.A. held here 2½d. per lb. is asked.

**COPAIBA.**—The improvement is maintained, 6 barrels Maranh held sold at 1s. 7½d. per lb. for cloudy.

**WAX, CARNAUBA.**—Slow of sale, ordinary to good yellow has sold at 80s. to 83s. per cwt. for choice (12 bags), and small lots of grey Pernambuco and Ceara have changed hands at 59s. to 60s., and 46 bags fair to good Maranh at 60s. to 62s. 6d. per cwt.

## German Drug Market.

*Hamburg, November 20.*

Our drug-market remains quiet, only a few articles show an advance since last week.

**BALSAM PERU** is again firmer, at 11½m. per kilo.

**CONDURANGO-BARK** is steady, at 270m. per 100 kilos.

**CEVADILLA-SEED** is quiet, at 70m. per 100 kilos.

**ERGOT OF RYE** is unchanged, but firm and scarce; Russian is quoted 5m. per kilo.

**OPIMUM** is dearer, at 19m. per kilo.

**STAR-ANISE** is dull and lower, at 152m. per 100 kilos.

**SANTONIN** has been raised to 31m. per kilo.; second-hand quotes 23m. to 22½m.

**JAPANESE WAX** has advanced, and is decidedly firmer, at 62m. per 100 kilos.

**CARNAUBA WAX** is unchanged, at from 125m. to 175m. per 100 kilos., according to quality.

**COD-LIVER OIL** in poor request, at 77m. per barrel for non-congealing oil.

**CASTOR OIL.**—Spot is scarce forward and dull of sale; first-pressing in barrels is quoted 69m. per 100 kilos., spot, and January-June delivery 58m. per 100 kilos.

**IPECACUANHA.**—For Cartagena 16½m. per kilo. has been paid.

**SPERMACETI.**—Refined is 295m. to 300m. per 100 kilos.

**CITRIC ACID** is decidedly better, owing to a brisk demand and there being no more cheap stocks in second-hands; 285m. is willingly paid.

**ANISEED** in good demand at 33m. to 34m. for goods to arrive.

**CAMPHOR.**—Our makers advanced to 470m. Second-hand, in consequence keeps very firm, and quotes at 465m., whilst for January-March, 1901, 475m. is paid. A further improvement is anticipated.

**CANTHARIDES.**—Russian scarce, and 510m. is asked.

**CORIANDER.**—A few lots, for the most part sold to arrive, have been landed; the remainder is offered at 27m., holders being very firm.

**FENUGREEK-SEED** unchanged and scarce at 13½m.

**GUM SANDARAC** in brisk demand, at 120m. for prime selected.

**LACOPodium.**—Very firm, at 435m. per kilo. on the spot.

**MENTHOL** inactive, though firm, at 26m. per kilo.

**SUGAR OF MILK.**—The advance in American quotations has engaged many druggists to cover their wants, and large contracts have been made on the basis of 95m. per 100 kilos.

**STAR-ANISE OIL** is dull at 12½m. per kilo. without buyers.

## American Drug Market.

*New York, November 13.*

The excitement attending the Presidential election caused a lack of interest in business circles, but since the country has decided to retain the present administration a marked improvement is noticeable in all lines of business. In drug-circles, dealers all report an improvement, and the market is more animated than for some time past.

**OPIMUM** has been selling more freely, and the market has an advancing tendency. Sales have been made up to \$3.35, and to-day \$3.40 per lb. is asked for case lots.

**QUININE** is quiet, but manufacturers' quotations are unchanged at 35c. Second hands offer at 33½c. in bulk.

**ALOES.**—Recent arrivals have all been taken up, and the market is steady. Packages, ex dock, have been sold at 3c., but dealers generally quote 3½c. to 4c. per lb.

**BEESEWAX.**—Ordinary yellow is slow of sale at 28c. per lb.

**SENEGA** is very firm. Supplies have been sold at 44c. per lb., and a small amount is still available at this figure, but most dealers ask 45c.

**ERGOT.**—Russian is selling at 55c. in small lots. The market is strong, and only limited amounts are offered. Quotations generally range from 56c. to 58c. per lb., according to quality.

**DAMIANA-LEAVES** are firmer owing to unfavourable reports regarding the new crop. Spot values are firm at 9c. to 10c., and the tendency is upward.

**CINCHONIDINE.**—Manufacturers have reduced quotations to 30c., but supplies are obtainable as heretofore at 28c. to 29c.

**BUCHU-LEAVES** are firmer, at 20c. to 25c. for short, and 28c. to 30c. for long.

**GOLDEN SEAL** is scarce, and little is offering from the country. Spot quotations are firm at 56c. to 60c.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Mexican is steady at 7½c. to 8c. per lb. Supplies to arrive are offered at a lower figure.

**OIL OF PEPPERMINT.**—Western is firm at \$1.10 in tins and \$1.35 in bottles.

**IPECACUANHA (Rio)** is easier in sympathy with the London market. Supplies are offered as low as \$2.75, but demand is poor.

**MENTHOL** has again advanced. Sales have been made at \$3.50, and quotations have moved up to \$3.75, and in some cases as high as \$4.50 is quoted.

## London Markets.

**ACID, CITRIC,** is firmer in second-hands, 1s. 3½d. having been paid for small lots of English crystals. Makers' price is 1s. 3½d., at which figure they are only sellers for prompt delivery.

**ARNICA-FLOWERS** are scarce, at from 42s. up to 50s. per cwt., c.i.f., for fine quality.

**ASA-FETIDA.**—About 25 cases have been sold this week for export, at 40s. per cwt.

**CAMPHOR.**—Makers of German refined have advanced their quotation ¼d. per lb., and there is every indication of a further rise. It is thought probable that English refined will be dearer now that the cheap stocks of crude camphor are approaching an end. According to the bill of entry, the ss. *Viola*, from Hamburg, has arrived with 197 tubs and 1,183 cases of camphor.

**CANTHARIDES.**—Russian flies are quoted 2s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

**CINCHONA.**—The weight of the 7,337 packages to be offered at the Amsterdam auctions on December 6 is 654,438 kilos., divided as follows:—Ledgeriana, 475,797 kilos., succirubra, 89,948 kilos.; and hybrid, 88,693 kilos. The shipments from Java for the first half of November amount to 530,000 Amsterdam lbs. In the drug-auctions 20 serons of Huanoco grey bark sold at 6½d. for sound and 6d. for damaged. Another parcel of 11 bales sound realised 7d., and damaged 3½d. to 6½d., while six bales of good bright Loxa quill brought 1s. 6d., which was dearer.

**COCOA-BUTTER.**—The auctions to be held at Amsterdam on December 4 will consist of 65 tons Van Houten's, 25 tons Helm, 5 tons De Jong, and 5 tons Mignon, while on the same date in London 60 tons Cadbury's brand will be offered.

**COLCHICUM** in slices is quoted 31s. 6d. to 32s. per cwt., c.i.f., gross for net, according to seller.

**GALLS.**—All kinds are slow of sale, but considerable shipments of Persian are close at hand, when a better demand may be expected; a fair proportion of them, however, have been sold for arrival. For Persian white 55s. per cwt. spot has been paid, but no business has transpired in blue. Prices to arrive are easier at 58s. 6d., c.i.f., for blue, 47s. 6d. to 50s. for white, and 53s. for green. Chinese offer at 67s. 6d., c.i.f., for plum-shape, and 66s. for ordinary, and Japanese at 62s. 6d.

**GLYCERIN** keeps quiet, with sellers of English refined S.G. 1260 at 58s. 6d. per cwt., in drums.

**GOLDEN SEAL.**—The market is firmer at 2s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f. in one quarter, but there are still sellers at 2s. 6d., landed terms.

**GUM ARABIC.**—In so-called Persian insoluble sorts, retail sales of small pale have been made at 18s. 9d., and selected at 20s. to 21s. per cwt. In auction 6 cases small to medium pale and reddish picked Aden gum were bought in at 65s. per cwt., and 13 packages partly sea-damaged brown Barbary sold "without reserve" at 45s. 6d.

**GUM TRAGACANTH.**—A fair business has been done in the lower grades, but the market is bare of the fine qualities, which are sought after. A moderate quantity is now in course of landing.

**IRISH MOSS.**—Common or natural, of direct import from Ireland is quoted 13s. per cwt., and picked French, 28s., c.i.f.



**LAVENDER-FLOWERS.**—Hand-picked French are quoted 38s. per cwt., c.i.f., and sifted, 27s.

**LIQUORICE-ROOT.**—Small sales of ordinary rough Persian have been made at 8s. 6d. per cwt.

**LYCOPODIUM.**—Spot sellers quote 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d. per lb.

**MENTHOL** is slightly higher again, 13s. per lb. reported being paid for Kobayashi crystals, spot, and 12s. 9d. for Fusi Yama; the c.i.f. quotation runs from 12s. 3d. to 12s. 6d., according to position.

**OIL, ALMOND.**—English distillers have reduced their quotation 1d. per lb., and now quote sweet at 2s., and pallid at 2s. 2d.

**OIL, CASTOR.**—Belgian is lower at 33s. per cwt., spot, for first-pressing, and 31s. for second-pressing.

**OIL, COD-LIVER.**—Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 17 that the market is again lower, 65s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, having been accepted for best Lofoten oil. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 8,977 barrels, against 12,835 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

**OIL, LAVENDER.**—Mont Blanc is quoted from 5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per lb., according to quality.

**OIL, PEPPERMINT.**—Pure Mitcham oil is still very low in price, although the tendency is said to be firmer, from 21s. upwards being quoted by English growers. Japanese dementholised is offered at 4s. 3d. spot, for Kobayashi or Nippon brand, or 4s. 6d. c.i.f.; 40-per-cent. is quoted 7s. 6d. spot, or 8s. 6d. c.i.f.

**OPIUM.**—There has been a good demand this week for both druggists' and manufacturing kinds, and from 2d. to 3d. per lb. dearer rates have been paid, fine Turkey druggists' being now worth 10s. 6d. per lb.; and for manufacturing qualities up to 9s. 8d. has been paid. About 60 cases of Persian are landing this week, but they have been sold for arrival; 14s. to 14s. 6d. per lb. is the nominal quotation.

**SMYRNA, November 9.**—The market this week has been more animated than last, and the advance still continues, owing to the want of rain. The sales for the week amount to 66 cases, including 20 cases Yerli, at the equivalent of 9s. 10d. to 9s. 11d.; 22 cases Bogaditz, at 9s. 9d.; and 19 cases Karahissar, at 9s. 6d. to 9s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f., for exportation. The market closes firm, with buyers. The principal buying was for American account, but some 8 or 10 cases were taken by native speculators, and a few for England and the Continent. The arrivals to date amount to 2,390 cases, against 2,150 cases at the same time last year.

The New Zealand premier has framed a Bill to prohibit the importation of smoking-opium. The Bill consists of ten short, very drastic clauses. It is made unlawful to import into New Zealand opium suitable for smoking, under a penalty not exceeding 100l. for each offence. Opium which can be made suitable for smoking must not be imported without a permit from the Commissioner of Trade and Customs, under a penalty not exceeding 50l. for each offence. No permit is to be granted to any person of the Chinese race.

**OTTO OF ROSE.**—A fair business has been done at the recent higher range of prices. Best brands are obtainable at from 16s. to 20s. per T. oz. for quantity in large coppers.

**PHENACETIN.**—It is reported that the convention amongst the makers, which was on the point of expiration, has again been renewed. The quotation is 5s. 3d. per lb. for 5-cwt. lots. In second-hands a fair amount of business has been done at from 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10½d. per lb., and there are still sellers at the outside figure.

**QUININE.**—The week has practically been a blank so far as the second-hand market is concerned, and prices are quite nominal in the absence of business. On Wednesday a sale of 10,000 oz. was reported at 1s. 3d. per oz. for December and 1s. 3½d. for March, and to-day a small business has been done at these figures.

**ROSIN** is easier at 5s. 9d. per cwt. for strained spot ex-wharf.

**SAFFRON.**—Importers now quote 30s. per lb. net, which is an advance of 1s. on last week's quotations.

**SANTONIN** has been advanced 2s. 5d. per lb. by makers, who now quote small wholesale quantities at 14s. 3d. net, 28 lbs. 14s. 5d., net, 56 lbs. 14s. 2d., net; 1 cwt. to 2 cwt. 14s. 2d., less a discount.

**SENEGA.**—Business has been done this week at 2s. per lb., spot. In auction 6 bales were held for this figure. There are sellers at 1s. 11d. c.i.f.

**SHELLAC.**—In more active demand at higher rates, second orange selling in auction at 1s. per cwt. advance, fair TN being now quoted 62s. There was a poor selection offered, amounting to about 630 cases, of which 350 sold, including second orange, fair red, part cakey, 61s. to 62s. per cwt.; palish ditto, 60s. to 61s.; red blocky, 58s.; and flint block at 57s. Garnet, AC, block, 60s.; and low weak blocky, 59s. to 61s. Button, fine pale, part hard, 60s.; cakey thirds, 50s. to 52s.; and common dark, 49s. per cwt. Privately the transactions include November-January shipment at 60s. 6d., c.i.f., and several hundred cases for delivery, comprising January at 63s., and more distant positions at proportionately higher rates.

**SODA TART.**—Howards have advanced their quotations to 70s. per cwt. for B.P., and pulv. seidlitz to 59s. 6d.

**STROPHANTHUS.**—The s.s. *Ingeli* from Natal has arrived with 43 bags of green Kombé seed.

### London Drug-auctions.

Little interest was shown in the auctions of new goods to-day, and the bulk of the offerings (with the exception of the senna) was bought in, the sales being concluded before 1 p.m. The following table shows the goods offered and sold publicly, the asterisk denoting that the goods were disposed of privately:—

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aconite (Jap.)	21	0	Gum aceroides	228	0
Albumen	14	0	Honey, Jamaica	57	27
Aloes (Cape)	50	50	Ipecacuanha—		
Curacao (boxes)	160	19	(Cartagena)	71	1
Socotrine	20	0	(Rio)	39	1
Ambergris	1	1	Kola	14	14
Anise, star	10	10	Myrrh	5	0
Argol (Cape)	2	2	Musk (Cabardine)	9	0
Balsam, copaiba	1	1	Oil, anise star	5	0
Peru	3	0	eucalyptus	15	4
Tolu	17	2	lime	23	2
Belladonna-root	10	0	rose	5	2
Benzoin—			ylang-ylang	1	0
Palembang	8	0	Orange-peel	6	0
Sumatra	32	0	Orris	17	17
Buchu	5	4	Patchouli-leaves	22	0
Calumba	239	127	Quassia, ground	18	18
Camphor	1	0	Rhubarb (H. D.)	104	2
Cardamoms	123	74	Sandalwood (chips)	8	8
Cascara sagrada	93	93	Sarsaparilla	38	13
Cascarilla	22	0	Senna—		
Cinchona	65	40	Tinnevely	652	640
Cocaine hyd.	8	0	Senega	6	0
*Coca-leaves	27	15	Soy	22	0
Cocculus indicus	40	0	Squills	19	0
Colocynth (pulp)	4	4	Tonka-beans	1	0
Croton-seed	5	5	Wax (bees')—		
Cubebs	91	30	Australian	9	0
Dragon's-blood	15	2	East Indian	35	0
Ergot—			Jamaica	22	22
Spanish	22	1	Madagascar	73	73
Guinea-grains	5	5	Morocco	6	6
Gum acacia	19	13	Zanzibar	226	80

**ALOES.**—Curaçao was slow of sale, 18s. per cwt. being wanted for fair capey, but no higher bid than 16s. was obtainable. Dull and drossy livery sold at from 16s. to 16s. 6d. Fifty cases of Cape were offered and sold at unchanged rates, 23s. 6d. to 24s. being paid for good hard bright, 20s. to 22s. 6d. for fair to good seconds, and 16s. 6d. for dull and coarse. Socotrine was held for 75s. per cwt.

**AMBERGRIS.**—A bottle of fair grey sold at 80s. per oz.

**ANISE, STAR.**—Chinese seed of fair quality, but slightly mouldy, sold at from 65s. to 67s. 6d. per cwt.

**ARGOL** from the Cape sold at from 35s. to 40s. per cwt.

**BALSAM COPAIBA.**—Dearer. For a case of very cloudy Angostura 1s. 5d. per lb. was paid.

**BALSAM PERU.**—Six shillings per lb. was the limit for a good French brand.

**BALSAM TOLL.**—Two cases, in large tins, sold cheaply at



from 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb., the lower figure being paid for drossy. Another parcel of 15 cases, in small tins, was held for 1s. 5d.

**BELLADONNA-ROOT.**—English was bought in at 40s. per cwt.

**BENZOIN.**—No business was done publicly owing to the higher rates asked. Very ordinary Sumatra seconds were limited at 7l. per cwt., and for common ditto, with few almonds, 6l. 5s. was wanted, an offer of 6l. 2s. 6d. being rejected. Good glassy Palembang in tins (8 cases) were bought in at 52s. 6d., a bid of 47s. 6d. being refused. No Siam offered. Sixty cases of Palembang have arrived this week.

**BUCHU** sold at unchanged rates, 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. being paid for four bales of fair round green leaf.

**CALUMBA** was in plentiful supply and was disposed of at recent values. Brown natural sorts sold at from 14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d. per cwt., and lean and stemmy sorts, 13s.; ditto, more or less sea-damaged, from 8s. to 12s. 6d.

**CARDAMOMS** were from 1d. to 2d. per lb. dearer, while seed brought from 7d. to 9d. higher rates. The prices paid were as under:—Ceylon-Mysore, good bold pale, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; medium to bold ditto, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.; long lean, 2s. 5d.; small to medium pale, 1s. 8d. to 2s.; brown and split, 1s. 3d. Ceylon-Malabar, small to medium brown, 1s. 8d. Seeds sold at from 2s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per lb. Privately there has been a good business in seed for export, and supplies are very small.

**CASCARA SAGRADA.**—A badly-damaged parcel sold practically without reserve, at from 17s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. per cwt.

**CASCARILLA.**—The parcel catalogued was not landed in time. Privately, sales of thin bright twiggy have been made at 45s. per cwt. New York advices still report a scarcity.

**COCAINE.**—Eight tins of hydrochloride (B. & S. brand) were bought in at 20s. 9d., a bid of 20s. being refused; 20s. 3d. was the limit.

**COCA-LEAVES.**—For fair green Truxillo 1s. 3d. per lb. was refused, the limit being 1s. 5d. Good bright green Ceylon leaves sold at 1s. 5½d., and fair ditto at 1s. 4½d. per lb.

**COLOCYNTH.**—Spanish pulp from Almeria was the only description offered, and it sold readily at 5s. 6d. per lb., quality being yellowish.

**CROTON-SEED.**—For ordinary dull from Colombo 23s. was paid.

**CUBEBS.**—The actual market-value of this drug was tested to-day, when 30 bags of fair brown, but dusty and stinky berries, were sold at 35s. per cwt. Another parcel of 8 bags was held for 47s. 6d.

**DRAGON'S-BLOOD.**—For what little was sold to-day higher prices were paid—viz., 9l. to 9l. 7s. 6d. for dull lump or pickings; 13l. was the limit for fair bright.

**ERGOT.**—A case of fine bold sound Spanish realised 2s. 4d. per lb., and for 21 bags of doubtful ditto, 2s. 2d. was refused. Privately the market is quiet.

**GUINEA GRAINS.**—Dearer. Fair bright sold "without reserve," with good competition at 50s. per cwt.

**HONEY.**—Jamaica, the only kind catalogued, sold at unchanged rates, 13 barrels of partly-set brownish selling at 26s. per cwt., subject. Of another lot of 44 packages, 14 sold at 27s. 6d. for fair set white, and 24s. 6d. to 25s. for brown set ditto.

**IPPECACUANHA.**—There was practically no demand for either description in auction to-day, and only 1 bale of Rio sold, 10s. per lb. being paid for fair. The limits ran from 10s. to 10s. 3d. Two strings of 40 bags and 24 bags Cartagena were held for 7s., the highest bid obtainable being 6s. 7d. to 6s. 8d. per lb. respectively. A bag of mouldy sold at 6s. 8d.

**KOLA.**—Good bold natural West Indian seed sold at from 4½d. to 4½d. per lb.

**MYRRH.**—Small to bold Aden native picked rather dark was limited at 80s. per cwt., a bid of 75s. 6d. being refused.

**OIL, EUCALYPTUS.**—Four tins of commercial oil realised

8d. per lb. "without reserve," and eleven cases from Adelaide were taken out at 1s. 9d.

**OIL, LIME.**—Hand-pressed West Indian was the only kind disposed of, and 5s. 9d. per lb. was paid; the limits for distilled oil were from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.

**OIL, ROSE.**—Three pots of East Indian were held for 3d. per oz.; two bottles of settlings realised 1d.

**ORRIS.**—A lot of seventeen bags, sea-damaged Florentine, sold "without reserve" for underwriter's account at from 11s. to 22s. per cwt.

**QUASSIA.**—A parcel of 18 casks ground sold "without reserve" at from 5s. to 5s. 9d. per lb.

**RHUBARB.**—The offerings to-day comprised new parcels of high-dried, the only description offered, and two cases sold publicly, 10d. per lb. being paid for good small to bold flat, with three-fourths pinky, and one-fourth grey fracture.

**SANDALWOOD.**—For eight bundles of chips, 16l. per ton, subject, was paid.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Eight bales of native Jamaica offered, of which six sold at 10d. per lb. for yellow and grey; and a bale of good red at 1s. Of eight bales of Lima-Jamaica offered, six country-damaged sold at 1s. 2d.; and for sound this figure was refused. Grey Jamaica is very scarce; six bales only were offered, and they represented the first-hand stock in London; 1s. 6d. was refused, the limit being 1s. 8d.

**SENNA.**—There was practically no change in prices to-day although there was a considerable falling off in quality. No really fine leaf was offered. The following were the rates paid:—Tinnevely, medium to bold greenish leaf, 3d. to 3½d.; small to medium ditto, 2d. to 2½d.; and common small and yellowish leaf, 1d. to 1½d. per lb. Pods, 3½d. to 4½d. per lb. No Alexandrian offered.

**SPICES** have been very quiet throughout the week. At auction on Wednesday a few cases of bold-cut Cochín *Ginger* sold at 85s. to 88s. per cwt., the remainder being bought in. Washed rough was withdrawn at 29s. to 31s., only one lot selling at 28s. per cwt. There was more demand for Jamaica, and a fair proportion found buyers at firm prices. Bengal is scarce and dearer, 32s. 6d. per cwt. being now the quotation. Zanzibar *Cloves* have fluctuated, and are firmer after being lower; a fair business has been done at 3½d. to 4½d. per lb. for January-March and March-May delivery. Penang were bought in at 8d. to 9d. per lb. for fair bright. Japan *Chillies* sold at 41s. per cwt. for fair red, and at 37s. 6d. for faded. Good red were bought in at 47s. per cwt. *Capsicums* were withdrawn at 28s. for dull on stalk. *Pimento* steady, but slow of sale; one lot of fine sold at 2½d. per lb., and ordinary at 2¾d. Tellicherry *Cinnamon* sold at 8½d. per lb. *Cassia-lignea* was bought in at 53s. per cwt. for good old import, and at 50s. for new. *Nutmegs* lower; Penang 80s have been sold privately at 1s. 4d. per lb. *Pepper* very quiet, but quotations unchanged. Good white *Coriander* kind partly sold at 9½d. per lb.

**VALERIAN.**—Belgian is quoted 27s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. and Hungarian of fine quality at 44s.

**WAX, BEES.**—Values were well maintained in auction to-day, and the demand was good at the following rates:—Zanzibar, good pale brown, 6l. 10s. to 6l. 12s. 6d. per cwt.; drossy and wormy, 6l. 2s. 6d. to 6l. 7s. 6d. per cwt. Jamaica, of good colour, 7l. 10s. to 7l. 12s. 6d.; and dark-red ditto, 7l. 5s. per cwt. Morocco, 6l. 5s.; 73 packages Madagascar offered and sold, at 6l. 10s. for sound, 6l. 5s. to 6l. 7s. 6d. for dark and drossy, and 5l. 10s. for common.

**WAX, CERESIN.**—Doubly refined white is quoted 68s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.; prime white, 67s. 6d.; half-white, 62s. 6d.; orange or lemon colour, 61s.; and natural yellow in bags, 60s.

**P.A.T.A. MEETINGS.**—We learn as we are closing for press that the Dumfries meeting will be held at St. George's Hall on Thursday, November 29, at 8.15 p.m., and there is to be one at the Church Institute, Albion Place, Leeds, on Friday, November 30, at 8.30 p.m.

**KRUGER'S EMETIC** = Hippi-khaki.

ABOUT 7½ tons (700l.) of gamboge was exported from Bangkok during 1899.



## Produce Notes.

### RUBBER FROM TOBAGO.

An item which is likely to be of great importance in the future exports of Tobago is rubber. The only rubber which has hitherto been exported is the gum of the indigenous balata tree. This has been done on a very small scale, and could not be extended without rapidly exterminating the finest timber-tree in the colony. Many cocoa-planters, however, are now experimentally planting on selected parts of their estates the more profitable sorts of rubber-trees, and two large estates are now devoted almost entirely to *Castilloa*. On one of these, in Tobago, 70,000 trees have been planted, but, of course, some years must elapse before the produce is put on the market.

### SUNFLOWER-CULTIVATION.

There is a growing demand in Russia for oil-yielding seeds, particularly for those of the sunflower. Until recently there have been but few mills for expressing this oil, and the growers, finding no market at home, sent their seed abroad. Now, however, there are mills in Russia which require large quantities of it, and, what is more, they offer the growers higher prices than those obtainable abroad. With the increasing home-demand a falling-off in the exports of oil-seeds may be looked for in the near future. In Russia it is found that the best results in sunflower-cultivation are obtained from a well-tilled soil, with not too much clay in its composition; it should be well ploughed in the autumn and harrowed in the spring. The seeds need to be sown in April or May in every second or third furrow. The quantity of seed required per acre is 20 lbs.; the yield, if good, should be about 1,600 lbs. The yield of oil from seed in husks is 17 per cent.; without husks, 20 per cent.

### [VANILLA-CULTIVATION IN CEYLON.

Mr. E. H. Edwards, a vanilla-planter from Seychelles, is at present in Ceylon, with the idea of promoting vanilla-planting in that island. Writing to the *Ceylon Observer*, he says that vanilla-cultivation—at the present price of the staple—is most lucrative, but the plant is keenly susceptible to climatic influences in its cropping. An acre of vanilla, properly planted, can easily give 200 lbs. of prepared pods; its present market value in Mauritius is 19s. per lb. In Madagascar, Bourbon, Mauritius, and Seychelles it is subject to a disease which sometimes completely wipes out the vanilleries; but the inhabitants are not disheartened: they open up and plant other land—to replant on diseased land is useless. The market value of vanilla depends on the vanilla being gathered at the proper stage—almost to a single day—and on its preparation. The curing appears easy, and many a crop has been spoiled through a novice imagining he “knows all about it” after having seen a few hundred pods prepared. Only very careful observation and much practice will ensure satisfactory results.

### SEYCHELLES AND MAURITIUS TRADE.

Among the Colonial Office reports issued this week are two from the Seychelles and Mauritius, which were written by the Acting-Governors as far back as July, so that Mr. Chamberlain's subordinates at Downing Street cannot be accused of indecent haste in pruning them. Moreover, the reports are more informative than usual, though, from a trader's point of view, too much space is devoted to administrative statistics and too little to commercial information.

The prosperity of the Seychelles, as is well known, practically depends on vanilla, the exports of which to Great Britain in 1899 were valued at 873,728r., against 460,320r. in 1898; France, 464,992r., against 271,320r. in 1898. A rough estimate places the area of land under vanilla at about 2,000 acres. Nearly all the vanilla is now cured in properly constructed drying-rooms heated with hot air. The French method of steaming the freshly picked pods has been tried, but the boiling-water process is generally adopted. In 1899 fine prepared pods fetched 16s. to 18s. per lb. (1r. = 1s. 4d.). This year the price is from 14s. to 16s. Green pods are now being sold at 10s. per 100 pods. The Administrator gives some hints concerning the method of planting, but similar information will be found in recent volumes of the *C. & D.* The exports of vanilla from Mauritius in 1899 were 3,709 kilos., against 4,042 kilos. in 1898, or a decrease of 303 kilos. The

imports of “apothecaries' wares” into Mauritius during 1899 amounted to 127,615r., against 143,266r. in 1898. There was a large increase in the importation of carbolie acid, due entirely to the prevalence of plague in the colony. The U.K. was the chief supplier, while France furnished 4,752 kilos. (1,148r.), against 15,956 kilos. (2,159r.) of British manufacture. Of phosphoric acid 118,177 kilos. was imported in 1899, which was a considerable decrease, probably owing to the enhanced cost of the article, as, e.g., in 1894 286,213 kilos. was imported. Belgium exported 10,000 kilos. in 1899 at an intrinsic cost-price of nearly 50 per cent. below British prices. The use of French patent medicines in the Colony has been steadily increasing since 1895, when the imports reached 25,646r. During 1899 the importation reached 81,285r., exclusive of charges and exchange, as against 36,545r. imported from the U.K. in that year. In 1895 the importation from the U.K. was about 50 per cent. in excess of the value of French goods received in Mauritius, whilst in 1899 it was almost the reverse in favour of goods from France.

## London Drug Statistics.

THE following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses from January 1 to October 31, 1900, and to the stocks on October 31.

	October		Stocks		1900	
	Landed	Delivd.	1900	1899	Imptrtd.	Delivrd.
Aloes ..... cs &c.	192	138	3,162	2,485	2,384	1,836
“ ..... gounds	—	200	289	895	2,964	2,675
Anise, star ..... cs	—	—	52	63	—	4
Balsams.....csks &c.	167	181	337	594	1,282	1,359
Calumba ..... bgs	221	236	1,169	226	2,439	1,495
Camphor ..... pkgs	965	922	3,444	2,766	7,449	5,786
Cardamoms ..cs &c.	247	358	2,368	1,862	4,658	3,997
Cinchona.....pkgs	973	1,933	8,996	17,954	19,325	26,423
Cubebs ..... bgs	—	—	1,056	1,824	267	955
Dragon's-blood ..cs	26	25	123	144	155	147
Galls.....pkgs	185	218	729	3,366	4,123	5,093
Gums—						
Ammoniacum ..	—	—	70	78	42	40
Animi & copal ..	1,697	2,249	7,530	12,952	25,852	28,899
Arabic ..... "	5,436	2,023	16,462	11,531	20,967	16,170
Asafetida .. "	18	105	558	570	766	911
Benzoin ..... "	201	187	1,132	1,240	2,605	2,403
Damar ..... "	153	418	4,136	4,720	3,423	3,642
Galbanum .. "	—	—	14	—	—	2
Gamboge .... "	5	24	237	337	67	133
Guaiacum .. "	—	4	56	56	68	66
Kauri ..... tons	145	250	1,714	1,615	2,379	2,310
Kino ..... pkgs	27	—	80	55	84	49
Mastic ..... "	—	—	8	11	—	23
Myrrh, E.L. .. "	12	27	196	347	135	249
Olibanum .. "	32	726	2,283	2,614	6,057	5,459
Sandalae .... "	15	87	448	475	914	826
Tragacanth... "	490	718	3,579	1,553	9,157	6,614
Ipecacuanha, Rio bls	91	50	393	221	807	618
“ other kinds pkgs	106	80	149	66	413	378
Jalap ..... bls	—	11	334	320	159	135
Nux vomica... pkgs	194	382	2,547	399	3,646	1,212
Oils—						
*Anise ..... cs	30	3	187	196	138	137
*Cassia ..... "	—	3	125	84	86	35
Castor ..... pkgs	188	167	634	1,053	1,759	2,097
Cocoa-nut .. tons	20	207	370	256	1,197	1,120
Olive ..... csks, &c.	35	182	489	925	1,383	1,929
Palm ..... tons	6	4	6	11	34	135
†Quinine sulph...lbs	8,016	8,279	214,187	160,652	89,722	50,100
Rhubarb ..... chts	149	90	1,133	1,379	869	1,036
Sarsaparilla .. pkgs	120	90	204	383	880	773
Senna ..... bls &c.	1,279	670	2,389	735	6,213	5,452
Shellac ..... cs	1,332	4,054	39,451	44,224	36,703	38,851
Turmeric ..... tons	37	112	708	169	1,128	577
Wax, bees' .... pkgs	868	995	2,625	1,686	5,796	4,695
“ Japan .... cs	18	37	666	454	748	789

\* Stocks of aniseed and cassia oils lying at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included in this return.

† Includes the quantity at Red Lion, Bull, and Smith's Wharves; also the Docks.

The statistics of goods lying at City Commercial Wharf are not included in above returns.

By an Order in Council dated November 12 it is declared that the prohibition placed upon importation of goods to the Orange Free State and South African Republic on September 27, 1899, is now removed, and exports to the Orange River and Transvaal colonies may be forwarded as before.



## The Spectacle-makers' Examination.

### A Candidate's Experience.

IT is some time since we gave the experiences of a candidate at the Spectacle-makers' examination, and as certain modifications have taken place in the form of the examination it will not be out of place to give the experiences of a pharmaceutical chemist who obtained the diploma of the Company this month. The writer says that the examinations of the Spectacle-makers' Company have since their inauguration attracted a good many chemists, but as some have erroneous ideas as to how much is expected of a candidate, his experience may give aspirants the information they require.

It is some seven years since I got through the Minor and Major, so that I was not in such a good condition for taking up the study of visual optics as I might have been. Like many other chemists I have handled spectacles for years, but still could not have correctly explained the difference between the various forms of spectacle-lenses. It was an excellent article in *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY* (1900) on the "Spectacle-trade" that was responsible for me taking up the subject from a scientific standpoint. After reading that article I purchased a test-case and charts, and commenced to teach myself, having also a few practical lessons from a friend who was qualified.

At the May examination, unfortunately, I only succeeded in the practical part, but, undaunted, I entered for the October examination, preparing myself by taking a correspondence course, and finally attending a class in London, journeying up each day. By the aid of a monthly season-ticket this was not such an expensive way of doing it as might be thought. Hard work was the order of the day, and on November 2 I presented myself at Carpenters' Hall, where the examination took place in a very fine suite of rooms.

I was first introduced to Mr. Lindsay Johnson, who asked me what I should infer about the sight of a boy aged 15 whose vision was improved by a - 1 D.S. I said it might be spasm of the accommodation or latent hyperopia, and I was asked the details which distinguished these cases from myopia. I was then questioned as to the effect of removing from the cornea a + 8 D. lens 1 cm. down the nose. This I worked out on paper. Questions on the muscles of the eye followed, and I was asked if the crystalline lens was ever removed in cases of myopia.

I was then told off to go to Professor Silvanus Thompson, who shook hands with me as I sat down at his table. He first handed me a prism, and asked how to find its refractive index. I was then shown a pair of prism binocular-glasses, and asked what was the magnification. My answer was not very lucid, but I was able to draw a sketch and explain the action of the prisms.

Then I was shown some specimens of pebble and glass, and told to distinguish them, a polariscope being allowed for the purpose. Next I was asked what a spectroscope was used for, and had to name the colours of the spectrum in proper order. This led to a question or two on the dispersive power of different kinds of glass. This ended the oral part, and, after refreshments had been served, came the written part of the examination, which all seemed to find stiff enough.

In the practical examination, which I passed in May, I was placed before a table covered with frames, spectacles, and eye-glasses of all kinds, and asked the value of about half a dozen pairs. I was then shown a pair of old-fashioned split bi-focals, and asked as to their advantages and disadvantages. The examiner then handed me a beautifully made light-steel spectacle-frame, which I was asked to measure and write out an order for. I was also asked how I would distinguish tortoiseshell from celluloid, and after measuring my examiner for a spectacle-frame, I was passed on to his assistant to be examined in neutralisation. I was handed a section of a large biconcave lens, and asked to locate its optical centre. This I found to be outside the section. Then I was given a spherocylindrical lens combined with a prism, and required to neutralise it; also two other spherocylinders, one of which was a + 13 D.S.  $\ominus$  - 6.50 D.C. This had to be done by neutralising, as lens measures are not allowed in this part of the examination.

The examinations as at present conducted are, in my opinion, just right; they are stiff enough to ensure the diploma being a prized possession, and easy enough to give those who possess the necessary knowledge a good chance of passing.

The pass-list of the November examination of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle-makers contains the names of the following successful candidates from the ranks of pharmacy:—Mr. C. M. Dalziel, pharmaceutical chemist, Garden Street, Carlisle; Mr. W. Maskew, pharmaceutical chemist, West Avenue, Clacton-on-Sea; Mr. J. H. Cuff, chemist and druggist, Friern Barnet Road, New Southgate, N.; Mr. J. B. Purvis, pharmaceutical chemist, 15 The Promenade, Bridlington; Mr. Hugh Jones, chemist and druggist, Church Street, Blaenau, Festiniog; Mr. W. F. Garry, chemist and druggist, 9 Tulse Hill, Brixton, S.W.; and Mr. R. Bonner Morgan, chemist and druggist, 8 Derby Street, Burton-on-Trent. There were twenty-four successful candidates at this examination, and it is satisfactory to note that only three candidates totally failed. Mr. R. B. Morgan, it should be mentioned, passed the full examination.

## Coming Events.

### Saturday, November 24.

*London College of Pharmacy Football Club.* Smoking-concert at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, 8.15 P.M. Past students are cordially invited.

*The Metropolitan College of Pharmacy.* Annual dinner at the Holborn Restaurant. Mr. N. L. Howie will preside and distribute the medals and prizes.

### Monday, November 26.

Meeting of the Aberdeen chemists at Robert Gordon's College, at 11 A.M., to discuss the aims and objects of the P.A.T.A. and Chemists' Defence Association. Mr. C. Simpson in the chair.

*Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 P.M.* Professor J. A. Fleming, F.R.S., will deliver Lecture I. of a course on "Electric Oscillations and Electric Waves."

### Tuesday, November 27.

*Royal Photographic Society, 66 Russell Square, W.C., at 8 P.M.* Mr. F. Galton, F.R.S., on "Analytical Portraiture."

### Wednesday, November 28.

*Society of Chemical Industry (Nottingham Section), at Derby.* Monthly meeting.

*Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 P.M.* Major Ronald Ross on "Malaria and Mosquitos."

*Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association.* Meeting in Mather's Hotel, Dundee, at 4 o'clock, to discuss with Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones the objects and work of the Chemists' Defence Association.

*Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association, St. Bride's Institute, Ludgate Circus, at 8 P.M.* Mr. F. Noad Clark on "The Microscope and its Use."

*Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.* Visit of members of the Association to the City Observatory (Calton Hill), at 8.30 P.M. Requests for tickets must be lodged with the Secretary (Mr. J. G. Sclater, 3 St. Andrew Square) before November 24, and, as the party is limited to thirty, the committee intend, if that number is exceeded, to ballot the names. Those successful in the ballot will receive tickets not later than November 26, stating time and place of meeting.

### Thursday, November 29.

*Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 P.M.* Paper by Mr. C. E. F. Vallet.

*P.A.T.A. meeting at Dumfries.*

*Goldsmiths' Institute Chemical Society, New Cross, S.E., at 8.30 P.M.* Dr. J. Lewkowsitch on "The Profession of an Industrial Chemist."

The annual *r  union* of the Chemists' Assistants' Association which takes the form of a smoking-concert, will be held at the Council-chamber, King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, W.C., on December 6, at 8.15 P.M. Mr. C. B. Allen will be in the chair.